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THURSDAY MAY 25TH, 2017

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# Special Hearing Aid Advice Week

## Start your journey to better hearing...

UK Hearing Care, provider of Age UK Hearing Aids, would like to invite local residents to attend one of our Hearing Assessment Clinics being held at a venue in your area during this Special Hearing Aid Advice Week. **It's your opportunity to 'start your journey to better hearing'.**

The Hearing Assessment Clinics will give local residents the opportunity to talk to a local qualified hearing aid audiologist about their hearing concerns. Those

attending will receive fully independent and informative hearing advice focusing on improving clarity for those with hearing difficulties.

If you struggle with some degree of hearing loss and are looking to improve on your day to day hearing clarity you should take advantage of the opportunity to attend a Hearing Assessment Clinic.

During this Special Hearing Aid Advice Week, our leading independent hearing care professionals will be giving the best advice on hearing in background noise and hearing with improved clarity; as well as special demonstrations

on the latest ultra discreet hearing solutions.

UK Hearing Care Clinics are designed to help those with hearing difficulties find the best solution. Our team will advise patients on the options available to them, including signposting people to the NHS.

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# Hearing in background noise let's make things clear

We offer definitive evidence based advice on what improvements can be made to your hearing in background noise. Learn about any limitations you may have.



## How do **Age UK Hearing Aids** make sense of speech in background noise?

Over the years providers of hearing care have become very skilled at defining the actual hearing loss you have using Pure Tone Audiometry (PTA), this is what most people mean when they say having a “hearing test”. However, defining the effect a hearing loss can have on our ability to listen and communicate is far harder to calculate.

These tests are used to program hearing aids in a basic way. They don't reliably tell you how the brain is working in respect of processing the sounds. So you can have two people with identical PTA test results but who have VERY different experiences with their hearing and very different abilities to communicate.

**Age UK Hearing Aids** are tackling the problem of background noise head on by creating an innovative new way of dealing with this issue. It's a popular misconception that your hearing will be improved simply by amplifying what you hear. But one of the most common problems

people encounter with hearing difficulties in background noise is that speech remains muffled and indistinct and that unwanted noise swamps foreground sounds. Simply making sounds louder doesn't make speech any clearer.

### **How we test our ability to communicate**

At **Age UK Hearing Aids** we have combined the hearing test with a suite of assessments that provide a 360° analysis of a person's hearing. Each assessment is linked to a phase of communication decline which we have called the **5 phases of communication decline**.



## The 5 phases of communication decline

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Free Field Word Recognition Tests are presented through a calibrated loud speaker, to assess any decline in your speech recognition.

### **Phase 3 – Speech discrimination in noise**

A special calibrated Speech in Noise test is used to measure what level speech needs to be, relative to all other competing sounds, for you to be able to follow a conversation.

**This is the most commonly reported and most important area of communication difficulty for most patients.**

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The Acceptable Noise Level (ANL) test measures at what level you find noise annoying relative to a conversation at a comfortable volume. This assesses any decline in acceptable noise levels.

### **Phase 5 – Non response to amplification**

The audiologist will then program a hearing solution and apply that hearing correction to your ears. An Aided Free Field Word Recognition test is used to assess the potential for improvement and design your rehabilitation pathway.

**Using these five different assessment tools can identify how far any damage to your auditory system has progressed and look at the impact on your ability to communicate. After the assessment you will be given a full explanation of the results to ensure you fully understand the nature of your hearing difficulties and its effects.**

The audiologist will then give advice on options available and what tailored hearing solution is right for you. As part of the consultation the audiologist can also give you a demonstration of your ideal hearing solution based on technology and best value.

**Not all national hearing aid companies offer all these tests as a standard part of their service. You can be confident you are getting the very best assessment available to you.**

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FOR A Wonderful WEDDING

## Police investigation after arson about in Bridgend

SOUTH Wales Police is investigating an arson that occurred at the YMCA in Angel Street, Bridgend, which was reported at 12.48am on April 22.

Before the arson was discovered, a security guard saw a man inside the building and confronted him which caused the unknown man to make off.

A short time later, six small fires were discovered by the security guard, which had caused damage to the inside of the building.

The male suspect is described as 30 - 40-years-old, with light-coloured short hair, medium build, tattoo on the right forearm, and wearing a short-sleeved shirt and jeans.

Police are appealing for people to contact them if they have any information about this crime or know who the suspect may be, or if they saw anyone acting suspiciously around this time and at this location, to contact them on 101 quoting ref: 1700151793 or they can call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## Pencoed bikers' club's charity ride will help fund Ty Hafan



Members of the Loones Bikers' Club. Photo by Mandy Thomas Photography.

## STREET ROOTS FESTIVAL IN BRIDGEND TOWN

A 'Street Roots Festival' featuring diverse sounds and flavours from across the world is being held in Bridgend town centre this weekend.

The free festival will bring live music, world cuisine, street markets, a street circus, parades, drumming and more to the town centre's streets on May 27 and 28 from 11am to 8pm.

On Saturday, the bands performing will be Yaaba Funk, The Blims, Evil Turkeys, Moonbirds and Lost Tuesday Society, while Legend Bob Marley, Regime, Junior Bill, Dope Biscuits and Sarasota will provide the soundtrack to Sunday's entertainment.

The event has been organised by the CF31 group of local traders with support from Bridgend Town Council and Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC). Coun Charles Smith, BCBC's cabinet member for education and regeneration, said: "The Street Roots Festival is going to be a family friendly event offering a diverse range of entertainment and will provide a vibrant start to a week in which we are also excited to be hosting the Urdd Eisteddfod in Pencoed."

HUNDREDS of bikers will be out and about in Pencoed this Sunday, May 28, on a charity ride around the area, raising money for the Ty Hafan Children's Hospice.

Loones Wales is a bikers' club, covering all ages, with 52 members but growing all the time, put together by a couple of local men from Pencoed.

Club secretary Stevo Lewis said: "We decided to ride, not just for our enjoyment, but to do our best to help others."

On Sunday, May 28, at approximately 10am, club members, along with riders from the general public and a supporting bikers' club from Bristol will donate £10 for the charity ride and head

off from Pencoed with a Police escort.

The first port of call will be Cowbridge, and the group hope that crowds there for the food festival will respond to the planned charity collection.

The riders will then move on towards Barry, and then to Sully to visit Ty Hafan.

Next, they will ride out towards Brecon. Abergavenny, and down through the Neath Valley and arrive back in Pencoed at the Chatterton Arms by 7pm, where the charity raffle will take place.

An evening's entertainment will follow, and the popular local band, The Evil Turkeys, will play Madness and ska tunes from 7pm to 9pm. There will be a karaoke and more music to follow.

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## New cabinet announced by BCBC

ALTHOUGH Labour no longer has a majority on Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), they will provide all six members of the cabinet for the new term.

For full details on this story, please turn to page 3.









Pictured outside the South Wales Police HQ in Bridgend are: Alan Murphy (Willmott Dixon), Dave Todd-Jones (BCBC), Gary Maher (South Wales Police), Jonathan Parsons (BCBC), Matt Collier (Willmott Dixon), and Steve Price (Oriol Architects).

## What's going on 'ere? Police HQ picks up award

THE extension of South Wales Police's Bridgend Headquarters has been recognised at the South Wales LABC Building Excellence Awards.

Constructors Willmott Dixon picked up the accolade for 'Best Large Commercial Building' at a ceremony in the Vale Resort after the project had also won the same category in the Bridgend county

borough leg of the awards.

The two-storey police HQ, which was built during the Second World War as part of the munition operations, had to be extended and refurbished while police operations continued at the site, and Willmott Dixon was commended for its 'organised approach'.

The refurbishment included the introduction of a new heating and lighting system, while the opportunity was also taken to upgrade the fire safety system.

All new materials were selected to minimise the environmental impact and were obtained from sustainable sources.

Although the extension has been completed, other building work at the police HQ site will continue for a few more years.

Coun Richard Young, Bridgend County Borough Council's cabinet member for communities, said: "The extension of the police headquarters was one of the stand-out projects at our own Bridgend county borough leg of the LABC Building Excellence Awards, so I am delighted to see it succeed in the south Wales awards.

"It will now go forward to the national ceremony which will be held at Cardiff's Millennium Centre in the autumn."

Coun Young added: "The awards are about celebrating excellence from the drawing board to the site.

"The local leg of the awards is organised by the council's building control team, which carries out 7,000 inspections every year, from checking the foundations of a new house to the steel structures of an industrial project.

"These awards recognise the quality of workmanship shown by constructors to not only comply with building regulations, but to also show the highest standards of technical innovation to construct buildings that meet customer needs and look great."

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**BRIDGEND county borough residents who use communal bins for their recycling collections WILL be able to recycle cardboard when changes to home recycling come into effect this summer.**

Currently, residents that live in sheltered housing or estates such as Wildmill place their recycling into large communal bins, but don't have any facilities to recycle cardboard.

However, Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) and its recycling and waste partner Kier Environmental have confirmed that all cardboard will be collected for recycling if it is placed in the same communal bin as paper from Monday, June 5, onwards. It will then be separated and recycled by Kier.

Coun Hywel Williams, the council's deputy leader, said: "So that all county borough residents can fully participate in the new recycling procedures, we are introducing cardboard recycling in

estates and sheltered housing."

From Monday, June 5, Bridgend county borough residents must start using a range of new recycling containers for their weekly kerbside collections, while most homes will be limited to throwing out a maximum of two rubbish bags each fortnight.

Black bags will no longer be used - instead, homes will be issued with a roll of branded blue bags.

A BCBC spokesman said: "All of the changes are being introduced in a bid to make the county borough one of the greenest places to live in Wales, and achieve high recycling targets set by Welsh Government.

"The new recycling containers and specially branded waste bags will be delivered to all homes before the new arrangements start.

As many recycling and waste collection days are also changing, residents are advised to look out for their new collection calendars which are being delivered through the post.

For further details, visit [www.recycleforbridgend.wales](http://www.recycleforbridgend.wales).

# Council Leader makes plea for a partnership to help 'find a way through challenges'

**NEWLY-ELECTED** members at Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) have agreed who will undertake the Leader and Cabinet roles for the year ahead.

Following the recent local elections, they met for the first time on Wednesday afternoon (May 17) as a formal body for the annual meeting of the full council.

Coun Pam Davies was selected to act as Mayor of Bridgend County Borough, while Coun John McCarthy will act as Deputy Mayor.

Coun Huw David was unanimously returned as Leader of the authority after no other nominations were put forward, and the Cabinet portfolio positions were agreed as follows:

Deputy Leader - Coun Hywel Williams

Cabinet Member for Social Services and Early Help - Coun Phil White

Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration - Coun Charles Smith

Cabinet Member for Future Generations - Coun Dhanisha Patel

Cabinet Member for Communities - Coun Richard Young

Council Leader Huw David said: "I'm thrilled that councillors Patel and Young have agreed to join my very experienced Cabinet team, and I know that they will make a valuable contribution towards our strategic leadership of the authority."

Groups and group leaders were confirmed as follows:

Labour (26) - Coun Huw David

Conservative (11) - Coun Ken Watts

Independence Alliance (10) - Coun Norah Clarke

Plaid Cymru (3) - Coun Malcolm James

Llynnfi Independents (3) - Coun Ross Penhale-Thomas

Coun Jeff Tildesley opted not to join any groups.

Addressing the meeting, newly-elected Leader Huw David said: "No matter what our political differences may be, what unites us as

councillors is that we all want what we think is best for the communities and people that we represent.

"As elected members, we have a duty to come together as a single authority to find a way through these challenges, and ensure that essential services can continue to be provided.

"I want members to be fully engaged in supporting the development of visions and options for change, and to help drive improvement in our key service areas.

"Despite the difficulties that we face, we all remain ambitious for the county borough, and I want us to continue to work in partnership on the delivery of vital improvements and projects."

For more details about the newly elected members of Bridgend County Borough Council, visit the council and democracy page at [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk)

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## Councillor's letter on town council move 'avoided the issue'

**I**REFER to the letter from Coun Graham Walters (May 18) in response to my letter (May 11), regarding the moving of Porthcawl Town Council offices.

I feel that his response failed to address the main point of my letter: the cost.

Firstly, the independents and former Liberal Dems were quite content to sign the first lease on the alternative office. This lease had several mistakes, with extra costs that the town council were expected to pay.

Porthcawl Town Council had to meet four times to look at the lease, and it had to be refused four times because of mistakes and extra costs.

Every time it was rejected by a democratic vote of council.

It seems that Coun Walter is not prepared to accept the democratic decision of the council, unlike the members of the Labour Party who stood for council elections in May and lost; we accepted the democratic results and moved on.

Coun Walters also referred to the fact that the town council offices are not DDA compliant. I would point out that the alternative offices are also not DDA compliant.

For the cost of all this extra rent, moving expenses, hiring meeting rooms, etc., a single person lift could be installed in the existing council offices.

**JW Bunker,  
Porthcawl.**

## The 'Wimbles' get to work on a litter pick



**DURING** their latest litter pick, Llanharan and Brynna Wimbles saw community spirit with residents pitching in to help.

With efforts from groups such as Bryncae FC youth players, Cubs, families, local PCSOs, and many more, the morning was, reportedly, a great success.

Ogmore Assembly Member Huw Irranca-Davies and Labour Parliamentary Candidate for Ogmore Chris Elmore, who both attended, rolled up their sleeves and offered a helping hand.

A spokesperson for Mr Irranca-Davies reported him saying: "It is always inspiring to see such community spirit, particularly displayed by volunteers, willingly giving up their time and working hard to take pride in the area where they live."

"A great morning helping the Wimbles and their friends for the Bryncae Litter Pick – true community champions – well done, everyone involved." On behalf of Mr Elmore, the spokesperson reported: "It's lovely to be out again with residents. The fantastic group of volunteers really do show the best of community mindedness. I look forward to joining them on their next community litter pick!"

The next litter pick is from the Mountain Hare Inn, Brynna on Saturday, July 15, at 9.45am.

For more information on the Wimbles see Facebook: Llanharan & Brynna Wimbles or Twitter: @Wimblesllanbryn.

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## Bridgend film team on the lookout for talent in Cardiff



The aspiring actors and actresses were very excited about the potential career opportunities found in It's My Shout's new project.

by CERI  
RICHMOND

The Bridgend youth film and theatre production company It's My Shout (IMS) Productions Ltd hit the road last week, searching for fresh talent in Cardiff.

Heading to Cardiff and the Vale College on May 17, the team encouraged young thespians aged between 16-28 to audition for its next collection of short films, which will be broadcast on BBC Cymru Wales and S4C this forthcoming Autumn.

Under a careful and friendly lens, IMS members, such as production assistant Annie Davies, were able to assess the capabilities of the youngsters; many of whom shyly admitted that it was their 'first time auditioning for the BBC'.

Such an opportunity was also a strong honour for the BAFTA-winning company itself, which treasures its 'exciting new relationship' with the local college.

Under the supervision



ABOVE and RIGHT: Hannah, 21, explored a range of different emotions throughout her audition.

of creative director Roger Burnell, each candidate was provided with a dramatic monologue shortly before their audition.

From these scripts, they were asked to learn a few lines and deliver them to a close-up camera. By interpreting and expressing the monologues in various different ways, the production team was

given a great insight into each auditionee's acting capabilities.

First established in 2002, It's My Shout Productions Ltd is a media company intent on discovering the best new talent in Wales with an aim to improve the confidence and creativity in young people.

Offering training courses and workshops ranging from costume design to acting and directing, IMS's projects provide year-round opportunities in the world of professional film production.

The company has strong connections to community drama groups including Bridgend Youth Theatre, and welcome a wide range of people with numerous different qualifications and experiences.

For further details about It's My Shout Productions Ltd, contact via: Telephone: 01656 858187; email: info@itsmyshout.co.uk Social media inc. Facebook and Twitter



Students were asked to provide their own take on dramatic monologues during their one-on-one auditions



## Coastguard assists police in missing person search

**LLANTWIT MAJOR** Coastguard helped the police last week in a missing person search.

On May 15, volunteers were returning home following a training exercise when they were paged by the police to help in the search.

A spokesman said: "The casualty was located by police before our arrival on the scene but required our assistance in gaining better access to the location and lighting of the area."

The local coastguard team consists of volunteers and carries out water and cliff rescues between Aberthaw Power Station and Ogmore By Sea.



## Sponsored shave for Ty Hafan



After the headshave...



**LEWIS HAYES**, a volunteer at the Ty Hafan shop in the Rhiw shopping centre, Bridgend decided he would collect sponsors and shave his beard and head.

Fellow volunteer Edward Jones decided to keep Lewis company and have his done as well.

It took place in the Ty Hafan shop window, to quite an audience!

The pair managed to raise over £400.

Leon, from The Lounge hairdressers in Bridgend, kindly offered his time and expertise, and carried out the shave.

Well done both, and thank you from all at Ty Hafan.

JM

## Amazon donation will help Y Bont

A LOCAL children's charity has welcomed a £1,000 donation from the Amazon fulfilment centre in Swansea.

Y Bont, a charity that supports disabled children and their families in the local community from its purpose-built base in Bridgend, has received the donation as part of Amazon's local community support programme.

Y Bont offers a range of services which provide practical, social and emotional support for the children and their relatives. The charity accommodates children with a range of disabilities, complex medical needs and those still awaiting diagnosis.

Y Bont plans to use the money to

subsidise play sessions for children in its playroom.

Speaking on the donation, Amazon Swansea general manager Pat Faulkner said: "Y Bont is a fantastic local organisation that supports many people in the community and we're pleased to offer the staff and volunteers our support with this donation."

Marged Griffiths, CEO at Y Bont added: "This donation will provide us with vital funding to offer local families places in our playrooms and the money will be welcomed with open arms by everyone at Y Bont."

"We'd like to say thank you to Pat and the team at Amazon in Swansea for their support."

## ABMU nominated for awards

ABMU Health Board is celebrating after four of its projects made the finals of this year's NHS Wales Awards, announced recently.

The health board is up for the following awards: Improving Health And Wellbeing; Reducing Inequalities; Improving Patient Safety; and improving quality using 'Improving Quality Together' methodology.

ABMU's interim chief executive Alex Howells said: "We are delighted and very proud that once again our staff's dedication and innovative work has been recognised at the awards."

## 'Hinterland challenge' for Ogmores AM

**HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES**, Assembly Member for Ogmores joined the Ramblers Cymru Big Welsh Walk, supported by the Brecon Mountain Rescue Team, in Ceredigion on May 6.

The four trails ranged between two and 15 miles and took walkers through scenery near Devil's Bridge (Pontarfynach), an area featured in the television detective series *Hinterland*.

Walkers were encouraged to raise sponsorship money, with the cash raised going towards maintaining Ramblers Cymru's network of footpaths throughout Wales.

Director of Ramblers Cymru, Angela Charlton, said: "Our path network is something to be treasured and we want everyone to recognise the value that it brings in connecting people to the places around them."

For more information on the Big Welsh Walk *Hinterland Challenge*, see [www.ramblers.org.uk/wales](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/wales).

## AM welcomes WG's care home 'promise'

**HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES** has welcomed a commitment from the Welsh Government (WG) to enable people going into care to 'keep more of their own money'.

The Ogmores Labour AM asked at the National Assembly about the progress being made on the Government's commitment to raise the capital limit for people entering residential care.

The AM commended the Labour-majority Government on taking steps to deliver on its pledge to more than double the capital limit to £50,000 over the life of this Assembly term.

Mr Irranca-Davies said: "We know very often that the only asset many of our constituents have is their home, so more than doubling it has a disproportionately great benefit on what they can pass on to their relatives."

He also welcomed the fact that war disablement pensions will not be taken into account in Wales in determining the amount a person should pay towards his or her care costs.

He said it means

Welsh veterans no longer have to use any part of their war disablement pension to pay for the care they need, and that this is part of the Government 'honouring its covenant with those who put their lives on the line for their country'.

Mr Irranca-Davies asked First Minister Carwyn Jones how many people in Wales he expects to benefit from this 'excellent policy'.

Mr Jones said: "A phased implementation is underway, and the first increase to £30,000 was introduced in April."

"We have provided local authorities with £4.5 million in 2017-18 to deliver that increase."

"The initial increase to £30,000 will benefit around 250 people. The increase to £50,000 will benefit up to 1,000."

"This is out of a total of 4,000 care home residents who pay the full cost of their residential care, so a substantial percentage."

Mike Prosser.

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## Who wants to play a round for charity - AND KPC?

KPC Youth and Community is holding its annual Charity Golf Day on Friday, June 23 at the Grove Golf Club, Porthcawl.

Entry for teams of four is £160 per team, which includes coffee on arrival, golf fees and a buffet meal following

the round of golf, as well as entry for the evening entertainment with Phil and Ash.

A spokesperson said: "There are still a few slots available, so come along for a great day's golf and to support a local charity."

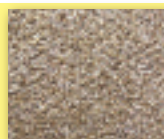
Sponsorship is also sought for raffle and auction prizes, or £50 to sponsor a hole."

For team entry forms and more details, contact Alison on 01656 749219 or email [kpcyouth@hotmail.com](mailto:kpcyouth@hotmail.com).

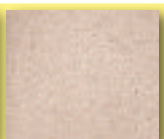
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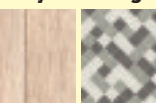


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## Words take centre stage at the Urdd crown

THE chair and the crown – the Urdd Eisteddfod's most sought-after prizes – have been presented to the organisers of this year's festival ahead of the Eisteddfod itself, which takes place later this month.

The chair, which is awarded to the best poem in strict or free metre, has been made using ash and sapele wood this year, with a strip of steel running through the chair to represent the steel industry in the area.

It's been designed and created by Osian Roberts, originally from Rhosirwaun by Aberdaron, but now working as the head of technology at Ysgol Llangynwyd.

Artist Iolo Edger, owner of Jewellers on the Bridge in Bridgend has made and designed the stunning crown this year, which is awarded to the best piece or pieces of prose over 4,000 words.

The design will be based on the Celtic torc rather than a traditional crown this year, made from silver with words from the Welsh national anthem incorporated into the design and elements of the local landscapes and rivers featured.

Osian is from a family of carpenters, with his father and brother in the business. He said: "My brother Ifan came down to give me a hand with the chair – we've always been quite a creative family."

"This is the first chair that I have made. It is quite modern and minimalistic with quite a high back, around two meters. It's been made using two kinds of wood: ash, which is light coloured and sapele which is dark, which gives a nice contrast. On the front of the chair, the Urdd logo is made from three different kinds of metal with 'Pen-bont ar Ogwr, Taf ac Elai' and a map of Wales etched under the logo.

"I look forward to seeing the chair on the pavilion stage on Thursday – it makes the occasion even more special because the chair is donated by the school that I teach in, Ysgol Llangynwyd."

Iolo was born and bred in Bridgend, also from a family of artists, who is now running the family business. He specialises in making jewellery and has started learning Welsh in the last few years.

Iolo said: "It has been a real pleasure designing the crown for the Urdd Eisteddfod in 2017. I took influence from the surrounding contours of the landscape and the three rivers that flow through the area. The Welsh language has such an important part to play

in the Urdd organisation and I was conscious of how language can communicate the human experience.

"Hence I wanted to incorporate words of the national anthem into the design of the crown."

"The whole process has made me look at what it means to me to be Welsh."

The chair will be awarded in the Eisteddfod pavilion on June 1 with the crown awarded on June 2.

For further information, email [angharadprys@urdd.org](mailto:angharadprys@urdd.org).

**MAE prif wobrau Eisteddfod yr Urdd, y gadair a'r goron, bellach wedi eu cyflwyno i drefnwyr yr ŵyl a'r cynlluniau wedi eu dadlennu.**

Mae'r gadair, sy'n cael ei rhoi i'r gerdd gaeth neu rydd orau, wedi ei chreu eleni gan ddefnyddio pren onnen a phren sapele yn bennaf, gyda sribed o ddur yn rhedeg drwyddi sydd yn cynrychioli'r diwydiant dur yn yr ardal.

Mae wedi ei chreu a'i dylunio gan Osian Roberts, sydd yn wreiddiol o Rhosirwaun ger Aberdaron, ond bellach yn gweithio fel Pennaeth Adran Dechnoleg Ysgol Llangynwyd.

Yr artist Iolo Edger, perchennog siop Jewellers on the Bridge ym Mhen-y-bont, sydd wedi dylunio a chreu'r goron drawiadol eleni. Caiff ei rhoi am ysgrifennu'r darn neu ddarnau o ryddiaith gorau dros 4,000 o eiriau.

Bydd dyluniad y goron wedi ei seilio ar dorch Geltaidd eleni, wedi ei chreu o arian ac yn cynnwys geiriau o'r anthem genedlaethol gydag elfennau o'r tirwedd a'r afonydd lleol i'w gweld ynddi.

Iolo said: "It has been a real pleasure designing the crown for the Urdd Eisteddfod in 2017. I took influence from the surrounding contours of the landscape and the three rivers that flow through the area. The Welsh language has such an important part to play

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For further information, email [angharadprys@urdd.org](mailto:angharadprys@urdd.org).



ABOVE:

The Urdd crown, designed by Iolo Edger.



Osian Roberts with the chair he has designed for the Urdd Eisteddfod.

modern a syml ei coron Eisteddfod yr Urdd dyluniad gyda chefn uchel iawn, sydd tua 2 fedr o uchder. Mae wedi ei chreu o ddau fath o bren, onnen sydd yn olau a sapele sydd yn dywyll, er mwyn cael cyferbyniad yn y lliwiau. Ar y blaen mae tri metel o liwiau gwahanol wedi eu defnyddio i greu y triban, a'r geiriau Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr Taf ac Elai a map o Gymru wedi ei losgi ar flaen y gadair.

"Rwyf yn edrych ymlaen i'w gweld ar y llwyfan ar y dydd lau, ac mae'n braf mai yr ysgol ydw i yn gweithio iddi, Ysgol Llangynwyd, yw rhoddwyr y gadair eleni."

Bachgen o Ben-y-bont yw Iolo, yntau yn dod o deulu o grefftwyr a bellach yn rhedeg y busnes teuluol. Mae'n arbenigo mewn gemwaith ac wedi mynd ati i ddysgu Cymraeg yn ddiweddar.

Yn ôl Iolo, "Mae wedi bod yn bleser dylunio

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## The twain does meet – for mayor's charities



ABOVE: Miss Bridgend with the Thai dancers.

ABOVE: Thai kick boxer, Noel Jones.

LAST month, in aid of the Mayor's charity fund, Pim and Mark Morgan brought the flavour, scents and sounds of South-East Asia to Porthcawl with a Thai evening.

Pim laid on and cooked all the traditional Thai cuisine and brought together an entourage of female dancers to demonstrate the finer points of Thai traditional art, colour, music and entertainment.

The evening was attended by the then Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Robert Lee and his lady Mayoress, wife Ann.

With Pim at the music console, dancers Well Kimpton, Nan Evans and Eui Goole, dressed in traditional Thai costumes, performed a number of delightful Thai dances to an enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

Miss Bridgend 2016-2017, Emma Khammaneechan joined the dancers for a group photograph and the entertainment was concluded by a demonstration of Thai kick boxing given by Noel Jones.

The event was well supported by all who attended with approximately £630 raised as a result for the Mayor's charity fund.

## 'Farm park' opens in rural Bridgend



(From left) Coun Reg Jenkins, Geraint Robson, Caitlyn Corless, the then Mayoress Teresa Jenkins and Ruth Rowe at the official opening of Ddraig Valley Park Farm.

BRIDGEND county borough's first farm park, in the grounds of Bridgend College, Pencoed, has opened its farm gates to visitors.

A Bridgend Business Forum member, Ddraig Valley Farm Park was officially opened by the then Mayor of Bridgend County Borough, Coun Reg Jenkins and Mayoress Teresa Jenkins. Set up by former Bridgend College students Geraint Robson and Caitlyn Corless, the attraction offers visitors the chance to 'get up close' to some interesting and unusual wildlife from more traditional farm animals such as goats, sheep, chickens, ducks and geese, to more exotic species, such as tortoises, iguanas, terrapins, quails, donkeys and alpacas.

The venue also has an aviary containing Diamond Doves, Java Sparrows and Canaries, as well as accommodating smaller animals such as rabbits and guinea pigs.

Alongside this, the facility is also a base for students studying related courses at Bridgend College.

Geraint Robson said: "We could not have achieved this without the amount of support we have had over the last four years.

"From the guidance we received to write our first business plan from Business in Focus, the Bridgend Business Forum, from United Graphic Design who worked on our branding and marketing, to Bridgend College itself, and from our mentor, entrepreneurship officer, Ruth Rowe, who has been with us every step of the way."

Caitlyn Corless said: "It was absolutely fantastic to finally welcome our first visitors and to thank our invited guests at our launch event in April.

"After some four years in the planning phase, we were overwhelmed with the turnout and thrilled with all the positive comments."

Further information on visiting the venue or to book a tour can be found by visiting: [www.ddraigvalley.co.uk](http://www.ddraigvalley.co.uk) or by contacting the venue direct on: [ddraigvalley@gmail.com](mailto:ddraigvalley@gmail.com).

## Fundraising duo aim to conquer Kilimanjaro

TWO local men are undertaking an African adventure in a bid to raise almost £6,000 which will be split among three great causes – Help for Heroes, Tenovus and Dementia UK.

Richard Brewer (41) from Barry and Scott Barry (50) from Whitechurch, who both work at south Wales company K S Barry (Plumbing & Heating) Ltd, have set their sights on climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in October.

At 5,895 metres, it is the world's highest free-standing mountain, with a famous snowy peak, and is located in northern Tanzania.

Richard explained: "Approximately 25,000 people attempt to climb it each year, but only two thirds are usually successful. This is mostly due to altitude-related problems, forcing some climbers to turn back.

"We have already funded our adventure and will split donations received equally among our three chosen charities."

Richard and Scott have set themselves a fund-raising target of £5,895 – that would net their charity fund £1 for every metre



Scott Barry (left) and Richard Brewer are already in training for their African fundraising trip in October.

climbed.

They realise that being in peak physical fitness will boost their chances of reaching the summit.

Richard said: "Training to climb Kilimanjaro is as much about your physical endurance as it is about your mental stamina.

"The types of exercise we will be carrying out are generally light-to-moderate intensity activities like jogging, swimming, cycling and long distance hiking."

The two men have included a 24-hour 60-mile trek of the Ceredigion coast in their training schedule.

The ascent of Kilimanjaro should take five days, coming down should take two.

Richard said they had little

trouble selecting the three charities to support.

As a former soldier who took part in tours of Northern Ireland and Bosnia, he was keen to do something for the Forces' charity Help for Heroes.

"Being an ex-Welsh guardsman this charity is very close to us, and what they provide is outstanding."

He said he also admired the fact that Tenovus was at the heart of communities.

"Their mobile support units have been bringing cancer treatment and support close to home since 2009. Since then, they have treated more than 5,000 patients and delivered nearly 25,000 treatments.

"They have saved patients hundreds of thousands of miles in journeys to hospital."

Richard added that Dementia UK had a positive philosophy that they wanted to endorse.

"Dementia UK believes that high quality, person-centred care can mean that someone with dementia can continue to live an independent and active life."

To make a donation to Richard and Scott's fundraising, you can go to: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/peaknoevil>.

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## 'Get on your [blood] bike!' urges local AM

**BLOOD BIKES** Wales is a charity of over 300 volunteers, operates 16 motorcycles and works across the whole of Wales each day.

It provide a free and professional out-of-hours service to support the NHS in Wales, transporting supplies to those in need of treatment across Wales.

Ogmore Assembly Member Huw Irranca-Davies, along with other politicians, recently met members of the charity at an event outside the Senedd.

He learned more about

the work it does in Wales and said: "Blood Bikes Wales is an enthusiastic group of people keen to make a difference."

"The financial savings to the NHS due to their volunteer efforts are significant and it was great to meet them to support and promote their hard work."

"It was great meeting with Bernard Wright and his team, who even let me sit on one of their bikes [see photo above]."

To find out more about Blood Bikes Wales visit: [bloodbikeswales.org.uk](http://bloodbikeswales.org.uk)

Twitter: @BloodBikesWales.

## St Clare's pupils are crowned science competition winners

A TEAM of four year-9 students from St Clare's School in Bridgend have become winners for Wales in Shell's national schools' science competition, The Bright Ideas Challenge.

The team called 'Chipachapachino' have also fought off tough competition from hundreds of entries across the country to come in third place overall in the national competition.

With an extra two billion extra people set to live on our planet by 2050, needing 50 per cent more energy than today, The Bright Ideas Challenge asks students aged 11-14 to use their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) skills to come up with creative solutions for 'powering future cities'.

The winning team's 'bright idea' of creating future homes built of carbon absorbing bricks has won them £3,000 to 'super-size' the STEM learning experience at their school, as well as a tablet computer for each team member.

The judges were impressed by the team's creative thinking, by their sound scientific research and by the practicality of their idea, which could be rolled-out across future building projects.

Team Chipachapachino were inspired by the ability of trees to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, but said that trees alone weren't enough.

Their 'bright idea' was to build homes out of special bricks that absorb carbon dioxide. They worked out that a wall of 600 carbon-absorbing bricks could suck up several tonnes of CO2 each year.

This by-product would then be

extracted and converted to power homes, cars and even planes of the future.

As well as winning £3,000 for their school, the winning team members will also be VIP guests at Make the Future Live, Shell's four-day festival of ideas and innovation taking place at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park from May 25-28.

A further 12 teams across the country each won £1,500 for their schools. Other winning bright ideas from across the UK included everything from a 'self-sustaining public toilet' through to bacteria generators that could convert food waste into a sustainable future power source, and 'eco wristbands' that could capture and convert sound waves into electrical energy.

Talking about their win, Theo Quantick, Dylan Walker, Ben Jones and Daniel Wigglesworth from St Clare's School, said: "The Bright Ideas Challenge really got us thinking about the future we'll be living in. It's inspiring to see how the things we've learned about in science can change the world."

Michael Gatt, physics teacher from St Clare's School, said: "The team have all taken time out to work on this over weekends and over the half term break, so winning is a fantastic reward for all their hard work."

"We also had another team that was shortlisted so the excitement The Bright Ideas Challenge has brought to the whole school is phenomenal. It has made the children feel differently about science. I would encourage all teachers and schools to take part."

For a summary of each of the 13 winning 'bright ideas' from student teams across the UK go to [www.shell.co.uk/brightideaschallenge](http://www.shell.co.uk/brightideaschallenge).



In the photograph are Theo Quantick, Dylan Walker, Ben Jones and Daniel Wigglesworth from St Clare's School.

**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF**  
**SIROL PEN-Y-BONT AR OGWR**

I give notice that the following applications have been made. The application documents can be viewed during normal office hours at the Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB or on the planning page of the Council website. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications on land use planning grounds should write to the Council at the above address by the date specified under each category of application or submit their comments online. Observations received on applications are not acknowledged. Any representations submitted will be open to public inspection and objection. Any representations may be identified as the internet. The Development Control Committee operates public speaking arrangements. If you wish to register an intent to speak at Council, please indicate the application not be processed under delegated powers (please indicate in your response). For more information tel: 01656 643675.

For full details of the following applications, please visit the Council website. The following applications are listed below:

<p><b>TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (WALES) ORDER 2012</b></p> <p><b>P117/2006/OUT</b> Eddi Tiro, Two storey detached dwelling—Land adj. Brynhyg Hall Broomfield by Mrs Julie Ellis</p> <p>Mark Shepherd Corporate Director Communities / Gylfaenyddwr Cofrestruol Cymunedau 25-05-2017</p>	<p><b>P117/2006/FUL</b> Residential development of 14 affordable housing units, car parking, access, open space and associated works—Land west of Bryn Bragl Brackla by Wales &amp; West Housing Association</p> <p><b>RESPOND BY: 7/06/2017</b></p>
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## Barry Mayor's praise for 'phenomenal' Mary Thomas

THE Mayor of Barry, Coun Nic Hodges, has described Mary Thomas, winner of the mayor's adult award, as "a phenomenal lady".

Coun Hodges made the award to her at the recent mayor-making ceremony in the town.

She was recognised for her work with Tenovus and Barry Soroptimists.

Coun Hodges said she had made a huge contribution to the community over many years.

"She is a phenomenal lady. I know her as someone involved in St Nicholas Community Hall in my ward.

"She is the sort of person who makes a town special and I was delighted to present her with the award."

The winner of the youth award was Bailey Sloan.

Coun Hodges said it was important that the council recognised the contribution both young people and adults make to society.

## Final event and cheque handover for Penarth Mayor

A FINAL event for the Penarth Mayor's charity Tros Gynnal Plant was held last week with help from Gingers, Penarth.

More than 90 guests attended a fashion show and the total raised on the night was £1,159.

A spokesperson said: "It was a great way to end the year of fundraising."

The total amount raised over the year by Tros Gynnal Plant from the wide variety of events held featuring local businesses was £5,244. A presentation was held at the town council offices to mark the end of the partnership.

Karen Jones from Tros Gynnal Plant said: "We are really grateful to Penarth Mayor, Coun Mike Cuddy and his consort Lindsay Cuddy, for choosing us this year and helping us to raise both this wonderful amount of money and our profile in Penarth."

"We would also like to thank the many businesses in Penarth who held events, such as Gingers, A Brush with Beauty, Penarth Soul Club and The



Penarth Mayor Mike Cuddy and Karen Jones from Tros Gynnal Plant.

Windsor.

"Also, thanks to the local businesses who donated raffle prizes enabling us to raise even more money at the events."

"Tros Gynnal Plant has been helping some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged Welsh children, young people and their families since 2002 when it was set up."

"Every child in Wales has rights; for most children – the lucky ones – enjoying their rights isn't an issue but for many

others this isn't so easy because to problems such as physical or sexual abuse, their care, emotional health, living in Wales as a refugee or asylum seeker, their education, or the law."

"This Welsh charity has its head office in Cardiff and projects running across Wales offering independent and confidential support to children, young people and their families through advocacy, participation, counselling, family group meetings and conflict resolution."

## Is he or is he not an independent? Plaid's anger at councillor's arrangement with Conservative group

THE decision of Sully independent councillor Bob Penrose to work with the Tory group on the Vale Council has angered Plaid Cymru members because it gives the Conservatives more power on committees.

Coun Penrose will serve in the Vale cabinet alongside the Conservatives, and his decision means the ruling administration has a majority 24 of the 47 councillors (see article on page 13).

On the council website, he is described as 'Independent (Part of the Conservative Group)'.

Early this week, Coun Penrose told The GEM he would remain as an independent councillor. He said he would be making a statement in due course.

Plaid Cymru's Coun Ian Johnson said: "By becoming a member of the Conservative group, despite being elected as an independent, Coun

Penrose has given more committee seats and more power to the Tories."

Coun Johnson added: "Through joining the Conservative group, they will be entitled to additional seats on more important council committees than Coun Penrose would have received as an independent, strengthening their hand in crucial committees, such as planning, where they will now have a majority of seats."

"If Coun Penrose is taking up Tory seats on committees and voting with the Tory whip, then most people in Sully and beyond would rightly see him as a member of the Tories."

Coun Johnson pointed out that in the previous Labour-Llantwit First coalition, the different groups were treated separately in calculating committee seat allocations.

On this occasion, it appears allocations will be made on the 24-member group, the Conservatives plus Coun Penrose.

### Hospital Discharge Scheme

ARE you looking after a loved one or a relative who has recently been discharged from hospital? Are they living in the Vale and over 50? Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Hospital Discharge Scheme provide short term support (6 to 8 weeks) to those who have been discharged in the last 13 weeks, helping them to remain independent in their own homes.

An information session will be held on Tuesday, May 30 (10am to 12 noon) at The Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry. No appointment is needed; just come along and chat to an adviser from the Hospital Discharge Team. Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

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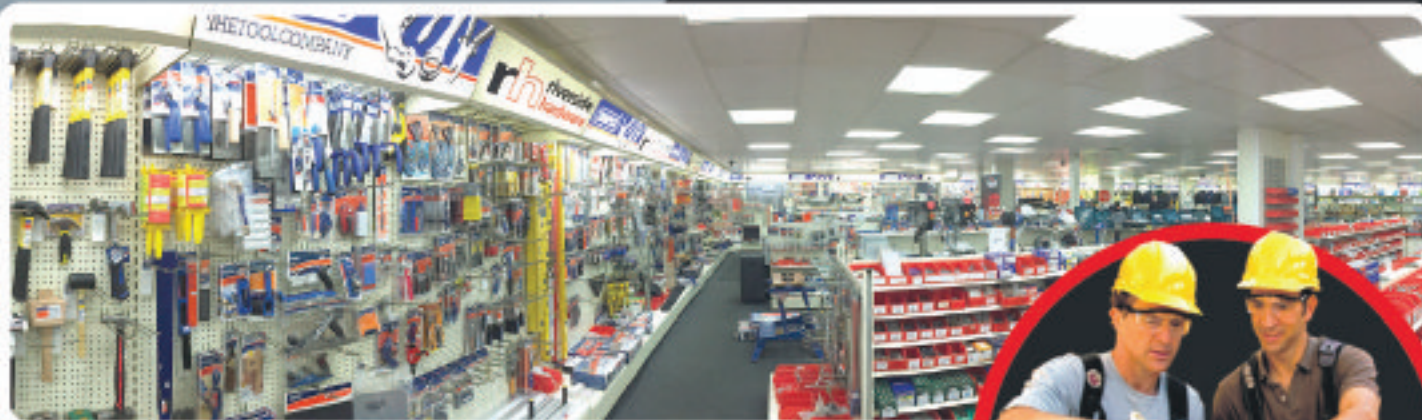




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## Barry Island's Rainbow Run helps out Ty Hafan



**NEARLY 1,200 runners turned Barry Island into a riot of colour on Saturday (May 13) with the return of Ty Hafan's Rainbow Run.**

A Ty Hafan spokesperson said: "After last year's fantastic first-ever visit to the beach, organisers were keen to make the event even bigger and better, raising thousands of pounds to help life-limited children, young people and their families across Wales."

"With funds already rolling in from the children's hospice charity's army of paint-splattered fundraisers, the event is looking likely to smash its £60,000 target."

"Nation Radio broadcast live from the beach, with performances from groups Brawd and Misfit to motivate the runners and entertain the crowds."

The seven paint stations, three of which were sponsored by One Stop, Convey Law and GM Financial, ensured runners were coated with a rainbow of bright paint as they crossed the finish line.

Ty Hafan mum Micaela Wilson, whose seven-year-old son Cai is supported by the charity, was one of this year's runners.

She said: "Ty Hafan has been a lifeline for us and we feel extremely privileged to have such a special place on our doorstep. Never did I imagine I'd use this magical place, but I am glad I have come across it in my journey in life."

"I have made lots of friends going there and met many special, inspirational people."

"It has taught me a lot and never to take life for granted. Everyone makes us feel welcome and nothing is ever too much for anyone."

Thanking all those who took part in the event, she added: "Without people fundraising, Ty Hafan wouldn't be able to run and we wouldn't have this fantastic facility. For parents of children like mine, life would be more difficult than it already is."

Lauren Sadler of Ty Hafan, said: "Thank you to all those who supported this year's Barry Rainbow Run."

Ty Hafan's next Rainbow Run will take place in Parc Bryn Bach, Tredegar on Saturday, July 8 and you can register at [www.rainbowrunwales.co.uk](http://www.rainbowrunwales.co.uk).



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# Out & About with The GEM

## Guy Ritchie's King Arthur is royally underwhelming!

**G**UY Ritchie seemed to have blotted his copybook after he followed up the one-two punch of *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* and *Snatch* with the atrocious *Swept Away* and the well-intentioned-but-ultimately-perplexing *Revolver*.

Solace came from a revisit to his British gangster roots in *Rock 'N' Rolla*, before Ritchie took on the reins of Hollywood's big-budget blockbusters with two *Sherlock Holmes* films and *The Man From U.N.C.L.E.*

With a live-action version of Aladdin next on his slate, Ritchie's latest film is his take on Arthurian legend with *King Arthur: Legend of the Sword*.

It stars Charlie Hunnam as Arthur, a peasant boy from the streets who sees the

kingdom ruled by the Machiavellian Vortigern (Jude Law).

But when Arthur pulls the sword from the stone, he realises he is the son of the former king, Uther (Eric Bana) and, whether he likes it or not, must rise up against the tyrannical Vortigern...

It's fair to say that Guy Ritchie's success with the *Sherlock Holmes* franchise proved he was more than adept at crafting big-budget blockbusters that had a keen visual sense.

With *King Arthur*, Ritchie takes on another iconic character that has been visited several times before. However, here the results are far more mixed.

Ritchie was keen to take away the solemnity of the Arthurian legend and invest it with some spark and energy, and he certainly does that. What doesn't work however is how the film flip-flops from *Lock, Stock...* esque fast-paced dialogue and smarts to

more fantastical elements, the film jarring at points.

There are plenty of things to admire – an early scene where Arthur has to recount his whereabouts to one of the king's henchmen plays out like Ritchie's early work, all witty dialogue and fast cuts, while an aborted assassination attempt becomes a foot chase around Londonium before settling on a gigantic fight sequence – but trickier to love.

It doesn't help that Ritchie never quite nails the tone, and the characters are sketched with very little excitement.

Charlie Hunnam's second crack at leading a blockbuster film (after 2013's *Pacific Rim*) doesn't quite work out.

His performance lacks charisma and feels wooden, but also Hunnam doesn't manage to get you on his side – there are surly heroes who you root for because of something in the actors performance that captures you, yet Hunnam lacks that ability so while on the page Arthur may have seemed like the reluctant hero, on screen he is smug and not hugely likeable



by **GARETH JAMIESON**  
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The performances around him (Djimon Hounsou, Aidan Gillen) are fine but lack any great depth, and Jude Law's villainous Vortigern doesn't land either, his snivelling and

simpering making him a less-than-worth adversary for Arthur and the actor struggles to really connect with the material, lacking the 'boo-hiss' qualities you would expect.

There is a sense of the film holding back certain elements in the hope of creating a *King Arthur* universe (or Arthur-verse if you will) – allusions are made to other characters within the larger story, no doubt who would come into play down the road, but the attempt at running before walking backfires, the central story not engaging.

It's a shame, as Ritchie shows a sure hand at the helm, the film visually interesting with some lovely set-pieces, but there's too much bombast and not

enough ballast, and his inability to stick to a tone (either fully embrace the world of Camelot or fully undercut it) means that *King Arthur: Legend of the Sword* is anything but legendary.

**VERDICT** – Not a car-crash of a film, but neither a royal success. *King Arthur: Legend of the Sword* is at best a passable slice of Arthurian legend, but doesn't truly convince. Guy Ritchie makes a good-looking film, but it's tonally uneven and with a lead performance from Charlie Hunnam that lacks charm, ultimately this Arthur doesn't deserve to be King. Poor.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves* (1991), *Excalibur* (1981)

## LITERATURE FESTIVAL IS MOVING TO JULY

**ORGANISERS** of the annual Penarth Literature Festival, now in its sixth year, have announced that this year's festival is to be held over a long weekend in July rather than the traditional week in October.

"Now that we are holding high profile author events throughout the year, we wanted to give this year's LitFest more of a local focus, and to tie in with the council's summer events programme," said Mel Griffin from Griffin Books in Penarth, which is sponsoring the weekend's activities.

The Literature Festival will take place from Friday to Monday, July 7 – 10 inclusive, in venues throughout the town, and a variety of events is planned to suit all ages and interests.

On the Friday, local schools will be bringing classes to the Paget Rooms for an event featuring children's writer

Jonathan Meres, author of the 'World of Norm' series.

Saturday's line-up includes bestselling author of romantic fiction Veronica Henry, children's events for all the family, and a talk on the Welsh at Passchendaele from local historian and headteacher Jonathan Hicks.

On the Sunday, former Welsh education minister Huw Lewis will be talking about his memoir of growing up in Aberfan, and there will be an evening of poetry readings and music.

The festival draws to a close on with a talk from comedienne and classicist Natalie Haynes on her novel retelling the Oedipus myth from the perspective of its female characters.

The full programme will be published in early June when tickets will also go on sale. Meanwhile, local residents are encouraged to contact Griffin Books on 02920 706455 for further information.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Farmers' Market

**THE monthly Porthcawl Market will take place on Saturday, May 27 at the Griffin Park Community Hall in New Road, Porthcawl.**

Starting time is 9.30am until 12.30pm. We will have the usual range of local food produce available but sadly will be saying farewell to our regular bread and cake producer, Liz, who is moving. This will leave a vacancy, so if there is a producer interested in attending the market please contact Mike Pett, the co-ordinator on MoB 07709827021.

### Bell tower tour in

**Cowbridge CLIMB the spiral staircase in Holy Cross Church on Bank Holiday Monday, May 29.**

See the ringing chamber, the eight bells, and climb up to the roof to enjoy panoramic views of Cowbridge and the Vale.

Adults £2, family £5. Under-16s must have adult accompaniment.

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<b>CINEMA @ THE MEMO</b> Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.2 (PG) Tues 30 May - Tues 1 June Snatched (15) Fri 2 - Thurs 8 June Alien: Covenant (15) Fri 2 - Thurs 8 June King Arthur: Legend of the Sword (12A) Fri 9 - Sun 18 June	<b>NT LIVE: Peter Pan</b> Sat 10 June 2pm & Tues 18 July 10am			
 Take That: Wonderland LIVE Fri 9 June 8pm	 Forbidden Nights Thurs 15 June 7:30pm	 NYC: A New Musical Revue Sun 18 - Tues 20 June		
<b>FAMILY FUN: MAY HALF TERM</b>				
 Boss Baby (U) Tues 30 May 11am Thurs 1 June 1pm	 Marty MacDonald's Toy Machine Wed 31 May 2pm	 Labyrinth (U) Tues 30 May 2pm		

## You are invited to BEADS ON TOUR

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**LAUNCHES SATURDAY 27TH MAY**

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The first class will be Lily Earring at £10. (Will need to purchase bead pack). No need to book - just turn up.

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# Jam Fund's gift will help Barry youngster

THE work of Vale charity the Jam Fund is continuing and the latest recipient is a nine-year-old boy from Barry.

The fund was started in memory of Jamie Adamson, who died of cancer aged five in 2004.

Since 2005, it has raised more than £400,000 and helped numerous youngsters suffering from ill health, as well as providing support for their families.

Jamie's father Paul, told The GEM: "We recently made a donation of £640 to a little boy in Barry.

"A family friend, Mya Marsh, contacted me to ask if the fund could help with a donation towards some therapy for the boy because he is affected by autism.

"It will enable the family to access a communication course.

"Mya's husband, Simon, used to work with me at Dow Coming and has recently been working on an oil rig in the North Sea.

"The crew of the rig kindly donated £300 to the Jam Fund. A further £310 was donated by my ex-crewmates of HMS Cornwall, a type 22 frigate, which was commissioned into the Royal Navy in 1988 by the Diana Princess of Wales, who also



Paul Adamson presenting a cheque to Mya.

launched the ship in our shipmates who have Glasgow in 1985. sadly passed away, by

"We were the very first crew of the ship and we have a reunion every few years to commemorate our time as her crew.

"The ship was recently scrapped in Swansea dry docks. The last time we met was in Plymouth just a few weeks ago, where we remembered three of our shipmates of HMS Cornwall, who collectively have made the donation to this little Barry boy possible."



Paul's HMS Cornwall shipmates donated £310 at a recent Royal Navy reunion.

## Chwarae Teg's 'Womenspire Award' finalists

**TEACHERS, student midwives, activists, scientists, theatre directors, entrepreneurs and employers from across Wales have been shortlisted as finalists for this year's 'Womenspire Awards' ahead of the celebration on June 21 at Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff.**

Chwarae Teg received over 300 nominations across the 12 categories recognising the extraordinary achievements many individuals and organisations have made in leading equality in their industry such as business, arts, sports, STEM, rural and education.

Chief executive of the awards, which are sponsored by CGI and supported by a range of other organisations, Cerys Furlong, said: "Following the success of last year's event we knew that there were more incredible individuals achieving and championing equality here in Wales.

"We've been overwhelmed with the stories and have seen some empowering and compelling nominations that we can't wait to share on June 21."

Two nominees are from Bridgend.

Viv Buckley, deputy principal at Bridgend College, has more than 30 years' experience in education and her sponsor said: "Viv makes me believe that anything is possible."

"Viv has delivered several projects and mentors young women as part of the LEAD project run by the Bridgend

Public Service Board."

Sian Preddy from Bridgend was reportedly told by a careers officer that she would "...not be suitable as a nurse as she was too deaf."

Several years later she returned to learning to do her CACHE Level 3 Award in Childcare and Education and is now a student midwife.

Her sponsor said: "Returning to education was remarkably difficult. Sian could not hear the lecturers, and they were not 'deaf aware'."

"She was struggling, but she persevered, knowing this was a career she would really love and had a passion for."

The full list of finalists is available at [www.cteg.org.uk/womenspire-17/](http://www.cteg.org.uk/womenspire-17/).

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The Sash Boutique provides event decor.

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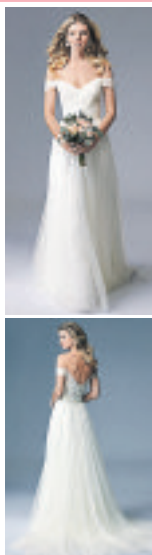


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# Barry astronomers say: LOOK OUT FOR MOON'S 'TERMINATOR'

**THE month of June is perhaps not the best time to begin a monthly column on what you can see in the night sky, because it hardly gets dark at all.**

Still, astronomers do not hibernate and there is always something to look at, weather permitting.

The one object everyone can find is the Moon. In fact, I will let you into a little secret. If you live close to an amateur astronomer, you may well see him or her jump up and down while shaking a fist at the sky. This may well be because moonlight often drowns out the fainter objects we want to see.

If you own an ordinary pair of binoculars, try using them to look at the Moon and you will be able to see a wealth of detail. Your binoculars will have two numbers on them, one small, and one big. They may look something like this: '7 x 50'.

The small number is the amount of magnification, the large number is the field of view. Using such an instrument you will be able to see large craters, flat plains, and even mountain ranges. You may think the best time to view is when the Moon is full, but this is not so. The best time to view is when the Moon is a crescent.

Train the binoculars on the terminator – this is the line where the bright edge meets the dark edge. The reason for this is because the Moon has no light of its own – it is merely reflecting sunlight.

When the Moon is a crescent, sunlight falls on its surface at an angle creating better shadows. This allows the features to stand out more clearly. When the Moon is full, sunlight is shining straight down and shadows are smaller.

The first week of June is a good time to look, and the Moon is full on Friday 9. All is not lost if you do decide to have a look at the full Moon, because you will now be able to trace bright rays that emanate from some young craters. The rays are caused by material that has been blasted out of craters, and fallen back to the surface.

The Moon can also act as a marker

to locate fainter objects; on June 8 it lies very close to the planet Saturn (more about this next month). On June 21, early risers will see it below the planet Venus.

If you are already familiar with the night sky you will have noted one bright star outshining all the others. In fact, this isn't a star at all but the planet Jupiter. The Moon will appear to be very close to Jupiter on June 3.

If you do spot Jupiter, look at it with your binoculars and you may be able to see up to four tiny little stars. These are the four moons that were discovered by Galileo around 1610. Watch them for a few nights and they will move positions relative to Jupiter, just as the Moon changes position in the sky.

Allow me to offer some tips. Firstly, and most importantly, never look directly at the Sun with any binoculars or indeed a telescope: instant blindness could result.

Secondly, to get the best out of observing the night sky, you will need to dark adapt your eyes.

Our eyes are best suited to observing in daylight and therefore you will need to spend at least 10 minutes in the dark before your eyes have adapted.

Try this experiment: sit in a room at night with the lights on, then turn them off and wait. Minute by minute your eyes will begin to adapt and now you should begin to see familiar shapes around you.

But remember, it takes a split second to lose your dark adaptation, so astronomers don't like bright lights. At the same time, we want to be able to have enough light to read star charts or find our way around our garden.

Red light is fine, so always carry a red torch with you. Try and find a suitable spot away from any bright lights, and if this means you leave your own surroundings, always tell others where you are going and take a charged mobile phone with you.

*If I can be of help, or you would like further information, look at the Barry Astronomical Website, [www.barryastronomical.wordpress.com](http://www.barryastronomical.wordpress.com)*

DAVE POWELL

## Sully WI learn all about seashells

**SULLY WI met at The Old School on May 3; president Jean Dowding welcomed everyone to the meeting.**

Following the annual meeting in April, we are now embarking on a new programme of speakers and events.

The first of these was our speaker for the evening, Rosemary Scaddon, with a talk entitled 'Cones, Cowries, Conches and Clams – Shells from the South Pacific'.

During the 1970s, Rosemary had lived on the island of Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands, where she had started her collection of shells.

The coral reef surrounding the island was the main source of shells, which were washed up onto the beach after heavy storms.

She told us about how the shells had been used by the islanders for personal decoration and also for more practical purposes, for example, oysters were used to make pearl buttons.

We thoroughly enjoyed listening to the interesting facts and amusing stories that she told us, especially the way that hermit crabs lined up from large down to small, to swap shells, as they grew too large for their current home.

We thanked her for such an interesting and enjoyable talk, as well as the opportunity to see a selection of her very large and varied collection of wonderful shells.

The ACWW competition: A shell, was won jointly by Jean Dowding, Anne Rees and Liz Roberts. The raffle winner was Sally Smith.

At the mid-month meeting on Wednesday, May 17, Sully WI hosted the Social Group of local WIs.

The Sully U3A Singing For Pleasure choir entertained us superbly, with a concert of songs from musicals such as *Carousel* and *Aspects of Love*.

Everyone had an enjoyable and uplifting evening, with coffee/tea and biscuits and the chance to meet members of other WIs.

Sully WI meets on the first and third Wednesday each month at 7.15pm in The Old School, Sully. New members are always welcome. For more information, call Liz on 029 20530887.

JEAN DOWDING



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**Saturday 27th May Depart: 09.40 Arrive back: 20.30**

**VISIT ILFRACOMBE / LUNDY ISLAND**  
Take the classic Bristol Channel excursion to the North Devon resort of Ilfracombe for time ashore! Alternatively continue to the beautiful, unspoilt island of Lundy!  
Fare to Ilfracombe: £36 Fare to Lundy: £52  
**Sunday 28th May Depart: 09.30 Arrive back: 21.30**

**VISIT MINEHEAD / WEST SOMERSET RAILWAY OR AFTERNOON IN ILFRACOMBE**  
Sail to Minehead for time ashore! Alternatively, take a ride on the UK's longest steam heritage Railway. In the afternoon, coaches will take you to Ilfracombe to rejoin the Balmoral & cross the Channel to Penarth. Another option is to stay on board to visit Ilfracombe for the afternoon. Take a stroll & get on ice cream! Minehead: £38 / £36 West Somerset Railway: £52 / Senior: £50 Ilfracombe: £36 / £34  
**Thursday 1st June Depart: 9.45 Arrive back: 21.15**

**VISIT WATCHET / CRUISE SOMERSET COAST OR WEST SOMERSET RAILWAY**  
Sail to Watchet for time ashore! Alternatively, enjoy a day of sailing along the beautiful Somerset Coast. If you disembark at Watchet, another option is to take a ride on the UK's longest steam heritage Railway to Bishop's Lydeard, then join coach to Clevedon before sailing for home. Watchet fare: £26 / Senior £24 Coastal cruise: £28 / Senior £26 West Somerset Railway: £48 / Senior: £46  
**Friday 2nd June Depart: 10.45 Arrive back: 17.30**

**3 RIVERS & 5 BRIDGES: AVON, SEVERN & WYE**  
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**Sunday 4th June Depart: 12.00 Arrive back: 19.45**

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Ilfracombe: £32 Lundy: £46 Lynton Railway: £46 / £44 Arlington Court: £42 / £40  
**Wednesday 31st May Depart: 09.30 Arrive back: 20.45**  
Children (5-15yrs) half fare, under 5yrs free. Family fares available: 2 adults & 2 children.

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skills to be used in a successfully run an element of a sports session, with this being followed by a period self-evaluation to highlight their strengths and the areas they could develop in the future.

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Financial Conduct Authority, FCA 308263.



# 'Blight of rural crime must be addressed,' SAYS NFU CYMRU

**'THE next UK Government must take action to show it is serious about addressing the blight of rural crime' – that was the message from the Nation Farmers' Union (NFU) Cymru Rural Affairs Board, which met recently.**

Rural crime was high up the agenda at the meeting on May 18, with farmers across Wales increasingly concerned about incidences of criminal activity including vehicle thefts, livestock theft, fly-tipping, sheep worrying, trespass, poaching, arson, vandalism and fraud.

NFU Cymru Rural Affairs Board Chair Hedd Pugh said: "Crime in rural areas affects members of the farming community disproportionately. It costs farmers time and money and also presents a risk to human health, farm animals, wildlife and the environment.

"NFU Cymru members are experiencing increases in various rural crime incidents that severely impact their farm businesses and strike fear and distress into our rural communities.

He said that NFU Cymru is "committed to making sure that farmers are not seen as a 'soft target' for criminals."

Ahead of the 2017 General Election on June 8, the NFU is seeking commitments from all political parties to address rural crime issues that are having a "huge

impact on farming communities and agricultural businesses".

"While businesses who have been the victims of crime have taken steps to reduce the risk themselves, it is clear that much more must be done and the next Westminster Government must address rural crime and ensure that future funding for policing reflects the additional costs associated with policing in rural area; and the Ministry of Justice should direct the Sentencing Council to ensure up to date Magistrates' Court Sentencing Guidelines are in place for all rural crimes.

"Police forces in Wales, most notably North Wales Police's Rural Crime Unit, have worked in conjunction with the industry to tackle rural crime head on – and for this continued, concerted effort, NFU Cymru and its members are very grateful."

An NFU spokesperson added that one of the union's key policy statements ahead of the election is: "The next UK Government must show that it is serious about the blight of rural crime, through funding which reflects the additional cost of policing rural areas and by refreshing sentencing guidelines to ensure that a deterrent effect is achieved."

## College web designers beat off stiff competition

**TWO Level 3 IT students from Cardiff and Vale College have won a competition to design a website for the college's coffee shop, Bae Coffi.**

Students Mateusz Kolacki (18) and Tomek Pawelek (20) both living in Cardiff, beat off competition with their winning design and were presented with a prize of £200 each. The Bae Coffi team will now "explore coding the design to make it a reality".

The brief called for an 'innovative website that is visually appealing and user-friendly'.

Mateusz said: "It was fun and a new experience – we learned a lot of new things as we had to go through the entire design process and not just create the website."

"It took quite a lot of time as we had to start from scratch," Tomek added.

"We've coded the website so that if there are any changes the people at Bae Coffi can do it easily."

## Creative and crafty in Cardiff Bay



*The exhibition in Cardiff Bay features work by first-year students.*

**FOUNDATION degree students in a range of creative disciplines from Cardiff and Vale College have organised their own exhibition – Bay Creative – at art venue Craft in the Bay.**

The exhibition in Cardiff Bay features work in ceramics, textiles, graphic design, product design and fashion styling and will run until June 11.

The students are marketing and running the exhibition themselves and many of the works on display are for sale.

Craft in the Bay's Simon Burgess said:

"Having the opportunity of Cardiff and Vale College, and this year is no exception with a high standard of work being evident through the exhibit work by students pieces on display."

## Polished Mr Sheen talks to NFU Ladies

**THE May speaker at a recent Vale NFU Ladies' meeting, John Sheen, gave us his 250th talk on 'Five boys and a pasty', and made the evening very special.**

Born in 1947, he took us back to all the good things in life, including 'Syrup of Figs' on a Friday night.

Mrs Frances Rees gave the vote of thanks and also won the raffle...again!

Kay Gay wished everyone a good summer and a good harvest until the group meets again on Tuesday, September 19 in Penllyn Village Hall at 7.30pm; all are welcome.

RJE

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# A warm welcome to all at the Urdd Eisteddfod in Bridgend!

**THE tents are up, the costumes are ready and the satnav is set for Bridgend – it's time for the 2017 Urdd Eisteddfod!**

This year the Eisteddfod is being held on the Bridgend College Campus, and 90,000 visitors are expected to visit the festival during half-term week.

S4C viewers can also join in the fun throughout the week, with extensive live broadcasts (available with English commentary) and evening highlights (English subtitles available).

And if you're heading to the festival Maes, you

can be sure of a great day out according to Tegwen Elis, chair of the executive committee.

"This is the first time the Urdd Eisteddfod has been to the area since 1991 and we're keen to welcome people from around Wales. Local schools have been decorated in the Urdd colours – red, white and green – and the campus has been transformed into a festival site. There's a real buzz about the place! Local people have been very supportive and have managed to raise huge sums of money and we're grateful for all their hard work."

The Eisteddfod kicks off with the opening concert on Sunday, May 28, with presenter Sian Lloyd guiding us through an evening of entertainment from performers such as West End star Sophie Evans, Only Boys Aloud and Dawnsyr Bro Taf.

From Monday to Saturday, broadcasts will begin at 10am and will include the competing, backstage gossip, and news from around the festival – from the various stands to the activities and live music.

You'll be in good hands with veteran Eisteddfod goers Anni Llŷn, Iwan Griffiths, Lois Cernyw and Trystan Ellis-Morris bringing all the action, live on screen. During the day, non-Welsh speaking viewers will be able to access English commentary via the red button or the audio selection option.

Each evening, presenter Heledd Cynwal will be taking a look at the day's highlights, with English subtitles available.

After months of hard work, the people of Bridgend are looking forward to seeing the fruits of their labour.

Tegwen Elis said: "The Eisteddfod has brought people from around the area together. Some local committees have suggested they continue to hold Welsh and bilingual events after the Eisteddfod. I hope the experience of being part of the Eisteddfod will stay with all involved for years to come."

Make sure you follow S4C's social media accounts to get the latest news from the Eisteddfod straight to your news feed – there will be updates on Facebook and Twitter, as well as a look behind the scenes on Instagram and Snapchat. Competitions seen on television will also be available to watch again on YouTube.

As always, all the programmes will be available to watch on demand online on s4c.cymru on the BBC iPlayer, or on the S4C app.

Eisteddfod yr Urdd 2017; opening concert – Sunday, May 28, 8.30, S4C; Monday – Saturday; Daily live broadcasts starts at 10am. English soundtrack available via the red button on Sky, Freeview or Virgin Media. Freesat viewers should use the audio selection option; Highlights programme every evening. English subtitles available.

## Croeso mawr i Eisteddfod yr Urdd ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr!

**MAE'R maes yn barod, y gwisgoedd wedi'u paratoi a'r lleisiau wedi eu cynhesu – mae'n wythnos Eisteddfod yr Urdd 2017!**

Eleni mae'r Eisteddfod wedi'i lleoli ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Taf ac Elai, ac fe fydd S4C yn darlledu'n fyw o'r Maes drwy gydol yr wythnos o ddydd Sul, Mai 28 hyd at ddydd Sadwrn, Mehefin 3.

Ac mae yna groeso mawr yn disgwyl unrhyw yn fydd yn ymweld â'r Wyl. Meddai Tegwen Elis, Cadeirydd Pwyllgor Gwaith Eisteddfod yr Urdd 2017, "Dyma'r tro cyntaf i'r Wyl ddychwelyd i'r ardal ers 1991, ac mae'r trigolion yn awyddus iawn i estyn croeso cynnes iawn i bobl Cymru. Mae'r awyrgylch yn un llawn cyffro wrth i'r ysgolion gael eu haddurno'n goch, gwyn a gwyrd, ac wrth i'r maes gael ei drawsnewid i fod yn Wyl yn barod i groesawu pawb."

"Mae'r bobl leol wedi bod yn gefnogol iawn i'r Eisteddfod ac wedi llwyddo i godi swm enfawr o arian tuag at y Gronfa Leol ac rydyn ni'n ddiolchgar iawn i ddyn nhw am eu gwaith caled."

Bydd yr Wyl yn dechrau gyda'r Gyngordd Agoriadol ar nos Sul, Mai 28, gyda'r gyflwynwraig Sian Lloyd yn arwain y noson. Ymysg y sêr fydd yn perfformio, bdd seren y West End, Sophie Evans, Only Boys Aloud a Dawnsyr Bro Taf.

Yna, o ddydd Llun i ddydd Sadwrn, fe fydd y darllediadau'n dechrau am 10 y bore ac yn cynnwys y cystaldu, y bwrllwm gefn llwyfan, ynghyd â naws

y stondinau, gweithgareddau a cherddoriaeth fyw ar hyd y maes. Ac fe fyddwch mewn cwmni da gydag Anni Llŷn, Iwan Griffiths, Lois Cernyw a Trystan Ellis-Morris wrth y llyw i'ch tywys drwy'r dydd.

Bob nos, fe fydd Heledd Cynwal yn bwrw golwg yn ôl dros ddiwyddiadau'r dydd yn y rhaglen uchafbwyntiau. Wrth gwrs, fe fydd yr wythnos i gyd yn binacl i bawb sydd wedi bod yn helpu gyda'r paratadau yn yr ardal.

Meddai Tegwen Elis: "Oherwydd yr Eisteddfod, mae na gyfeillgarwch newydd wedi'i sefydlu o fewn cymunedau ac ar draws y dalgylch. Mae nifer o'r pwyllgorau apêl wedi awgrymu y byddan nhw'n parhau i gynnal digwyddiadau Cymraeg a dwyieithog yn dilyn yr Eisteddfod. Rwy'n gobeithio bydd y profiad o fod yn rhan o'r gweithgarwch yn aros gyda thrigolion yr ardal am weddiell eu hoes."

Gallwch gael y newyddion diweddaraf o'r maes drwy ddilyn cyfrifon rhwydweithiau cymdeithasol S4C – bydd diweddariadau ar Facebook a Twitter yn ogytal â golwg tu ôl i'r lleni ar Instagram a Snapchat. Bydd cystaldaethau sydd wedi eu darlledu hefyd ar gael i'w gwilyio eto ar YouTube.

Bydd holl raglenni'r wythnos ar gael i'w gwilyio eto ar alw ar-lein ar s4c.cymru ac ar BBC iPlayer, neu ar ap S4C.

Eisteddfod yr Urdd 2017; cyngordd agoriadol Sul Mai 28 8.30, S4C; Llun – Sadwrn; Darllediadau byw yn dechrau am 10 y bore; Rhaglenni uchafbwyntiau gyda'r nos; Sylwebaeth Saesneg ar gael gyda'r dydd. Isdeitlath Saesneg gyda'r nos.

## CARE AND REPAIR

**ARE you a homeowner or private tenant living in the Vale? Are you elderly, disabled and need support and advice on repairs and home improvements?**

Care and Repair Cardiff and Vale can give advice on grants and information at a drop in session on Tuesday, May 30 (10am to 12 noon) at The Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry. No appointment is needed; just come along and chat to one of the advisers. Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

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### Wick Road, St Brides Major

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### St Johns Close, Cowbridge

- Two generously proportioned double bedrooms. EPC - D
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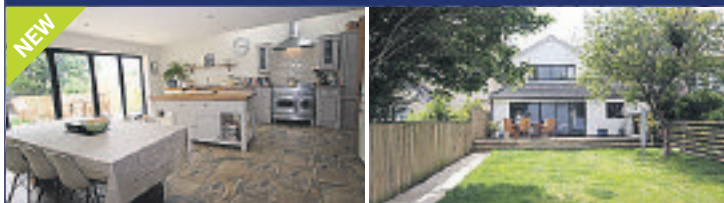
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RICS





**Clos Yr Wylan, Barry Island**  
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**£369,950** tbc



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## TABLE TENNIS PAIR TAKE MEDALS IN SLOVAKIA



**THE Welsh pairing of Bridgend's Paul Davies and Aberdare's Tom Matthews were among the medal winners at the Para Table Tennis World Team Championships in Slovakia.**

Competing in Class 1 as members of the British team, they won bronze medals after winning

three of their four matches.

They beat Slovakia, Italy and Hungary, but crucially lost in their final match to the top seeds, Korea.

With three teams left tied on points, the medals were decided on countback, with Italy taking the gold, Korea the silver and Britain the bronze.

Davies, 50, now has a world medal to add to those won at Paralympic

and European championships.

He said: "Italy won the gold even though we beat them, so it is one of those unfortunate things. But we've got a world team bronze, which is good in my eyes."

"It gives me the box set as I've now got one of each, so I'm happy."

GB Performance Director Gorazd Vecko was pleased with the performance of his squad at the championships.

He said: "In men's class 1, we lost out on the gold on countback although we beat Italy, who took the gold."

"We were without our best class 1 player, Rob Davies, so that was a good result."

**MICHAEL PROSSER**

## Bridgend Bridge Club – latest competition results

**THE latest results for recent events at Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows.**

**Wednesday, May 17:** First, David Bird and John Beard; second, Kevin Maddox and Mike Best; third, Glyn Williams and Irene Wickham.

The winners on handicap were Glyn Williams and Irene Wickham.

**Thursday, May 18:** First, John Henson and Chris Rawlings; equal second, Ann Fox and Colin Lewis and Maggie Ashpole and Stuart Davies.

The winners on handicap were Ann Fox and Colin Lewis.

**Friday, May 19:** The John Raymond Transport Cup, a team event: First, Dian Jones and John Henson and John Beard and Glyn Williams; second, Tony Disley and John Evans and Steve Burgoyne and Keith Davison; third, John Moore and Colin Lewis and Jane Brook and Wendy Williams.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesdays and Fridays at Norton Church Hall and play is scheduled to start at 7pm; to enable a prompt start it helps if players arrive at least 10

minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, again at Norton Church Hall, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding. All sessions are played in a friendly manner and visitors and new members are always welcome.

There will be a new series of lessons for beginners on Wednesdays from 4pm to 6pm starting in September, again in Norton Church Hall.

For further information about the lessons and any other club activities contact Steve Burgoyne 01656 661968, John Evans 01656 880372 or David Newman 01656 649138.

## Llantwit bowlers' first competitive game is a defeat

**ON May 18, Llantwit Major A bowls team enjoyed their first competitive game of the season in the Rockwool Triples League.**

The cancellation of games is an unfortunate trait for a lot of clubs, but Llantwit has 43 members in the men's section so there is no reason why 32 names cannot be available for selection.

However, Thursday was an enjoyable evening even though the result was in favour of the opposition, namely Ogmores Vale, who

boasted five or six players under 25, whereas the youngest Llantwit player was over 60!

The result went to Ogmores Vale, 37-82, with the full 14 points going to the visitors.

Richard Bayliss, Arthur Hayes and John Nixon, after a very good start being 7-5 up after 10 ends, only scored two shots on the next eight ends, while the opponent's notched up 16 shots in five ends. Final rink score 9-23.

Cen Williams, Mike Jones and Eric Sparks were also 7-5 up after 10 ends rinks; however, things went downhill for Eric's

triple who eventually went down 8-16.

Team captain Paul Brown, Dave Post and Mike Harmon, after being 2-20 down after 13 ends, had a mini comeback, but eventually lost 6-23.

John O'Brien, after skipping last Thursday's only winning rink in a friendly at Penarth Rectory Road, was again Llantwit Major's most successful triple in a very close game.

With the score at 13-15 after 15 ends, John was ably supported by Ken Williams and John Ball, but dropped a two and a three on the 16th and 17th ends to lose 14-20.

A thank you from all the players to Helen for returning to the club after playing in the afternoon to make sure the men had their pasties, and also looking after the liquid refreshments.

**CW**

## LLANTWIT MAJOR LADY BOWLS NEWS

**OUR Tuesday game had to be rearranged due to the weather.**

On Thursday we welcomed our friends from Cowbridge for another league game.

Edna, Marilyn, Eryl and Carol went into the lead from the start and although Cowbridge

nearly caught up on the 10th end, being one behind, Llantwit ladies rallied and won 19-10.

Liz, Naomi, Helen and Dilys lost on the first end but they did not give Cowbridge a chance to score again until the 10th end then proceeded to take control again, winning 28-9.

Kay, Pat, Margaret and

Julie never stood a chance against a strong Cowbridge team skipped by Sue and lost 8-17.

It was nice to see our captain Julie bowling her first game of the season, as injury kept her out at the start but Helen, our vice-captain, did an excellent job in her place. Well done ladies.

**CW**

**WJB**

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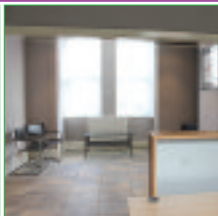
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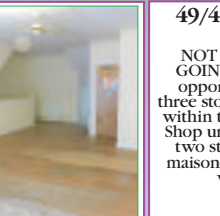
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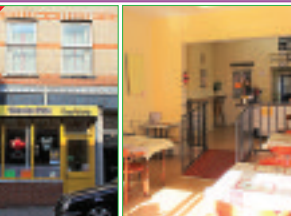
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## Family Notices

### DAVIES

#### John



Passed away peacefully on May 10th at Llandough Hospital at the age of 77. Beloved husband of the late Barbara and much loved father of Chris, Carol, Sally and Paul. Devoted bampa to Matthew, Michelle, Sean, Thomas, Lewys, Cerys, Morgan and Owen.

Funeral Service at 1.15pm on Tuesday, 30th May at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. Family flowers only, donations in lieu of flowers, if desired, to Marie Curie Hospice, Bridgeman Road, Penarth, CF64 3YR.

### JENKINS

#### Nancy

Died peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital, at the age of 101. Nancy had lived in Graig Penllyn all her life. Much loved mother of Pat, grandmother of Chris and Helen, great grandmother of Hannah.

*She will be sadly missed by all family and friends.*

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Wednesday, May 31 at 2.15pm.

No flowers by request.

Grateful thanks to the staff of Ward 4 of the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend.

### MILES

#### Lily Ethel

Peacefully at her home on May 14, Lily passed away aged 85 years. Beloved wife of the late Ernie. Cherished mum to Ian and Julie. *She will be greatly missed by her loving family and friends.*

Resting at W.A. Brown and Son, Llantwit Major until the service at Coychurch Crematorium on Friday, 2nd June 2017 at 2.15pm

Immediate family flowers please, donations if wished (cheques only please) for the Alzheimer's Society or British Heart Foundation c/o the funeral director.

### JESSICA RICH

#### 'Gerry'

07.05.1922 – 20.5.2017

Just to let all her friends know that she has passed on.

We will miss you Ger.

### JONES

#### Edna

Peacefully on May 18 at the University Hospital of Wales Cardiff, Edna, aged 90 years, wife of the late Stan, mum of Susan, Barbara and Catherine. Mother-in-law of Paul, Bob and Eddie, nana of Helen and Kenny, Richard and Fiona, Lucy and Neil, Nicola and Adam, Kate and Ross, James and Sarah, Ruth, Peter and Beth. Grand-nan of Chloe, Jack, Emilia, Eliza, Amelie, Cody, Brooke, Elliott and Daisy. Sister of Betty and aunt to her many nephews and nieces.

*Edna was an amazing lady, loving and caring, cherished by her family and friends.*

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry until her funeral service at St Cadoc's Old Village Church, Barry on Friday, June 2 at 11am, followed by cremation at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium Barry at 12 noon. Family flowers only. If you would like to give a donation in memory of Edna the family wish it to go to the stroke ward at UHW Cardiff (cheques to Ward A6 Endowment Fund 9600, c/o the funeral home). In keeping with Edna's wishes, the family would like everyone to wear something pink.

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[sales@glamorgangem.co.uk](mailto:sales@glamorgangem.co.uk)

### EVELEIGH

#### Eileen Azalea

Peacefully on May 11 at Llandough Hospital, Eileen Azalea, aged 101 years, of Barry. Beloved wife of the late William Joseph Ernest. Dearly loved mother of Roger, Philip and the late Michael. Mother-in-law of Maggie, Diane and Margaret. Cherished grandmother and great grandmother. *Eileen will be sadly missed by all of her family and friends.*

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry, until the funeral on Wednesday, 31 May. Service in the chapel at 11.30am, followed by interment at Barry cemetery. Family flowers only, if desired donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Holme Tower, Bridgeman Road, Penarth.

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## Acknowledgement

### Mansbridge

#### Leslie (Lester)

Leanora and family would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their cards, messages of sympathy and condolences.

Thank you to all who attended Lester's funeral to give him a send off he would have liked. Thanks for all donations, in lieu of flowers, totalling £580, which has been divided between RNLI Barry and Holme Tower Hospice, Penarth. Thanks also to Colin, Darrell and Laura for making the service so personal to Lester and his family.

Thanks also to Robert Fouracre and staff of A. G. Adams Funeralcare and the nursing staff at Holme Tower, especially Meg (ground floor), who showed great compassion to our family.

**RIP Captain Lester.**

## In Memory

### HUMPHREY

#### Dorothy

Passed away on May 22, 2016.

Our precious memories:

We miss you so very much, Dot.

You were so brave through all your years of suffering.

You never once complained, you were so special.

And we, along with your many, many friends,

will never forget you.

Gordon, Judith and Gary.

### ANDREWS

#### Shaun Glyn

Birthday 26th May

Happy Birthday Son

In Heavenly Father's beautiful  
Kingdom of Heaven

Love always Mum, sister Laura, nephew Diego and his children Nikita, Kade and all the family.

We all love and miss you. xxx

## Birthday

### Cheryl Coombes

Congratulations  
on your **50th**

Birthday

25th  
May  
2017



LOVE FROM HANNAH AND  
ALL YOUR FAMILY. XXX



## Public Notices

## SECTION 34 LICENSING ACT 2003

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT an application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a **VARIATION TO THE PREMISES LICENCE** in respect of the premises shown below.

Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of Monday – Thursday 0830 – 1700 hours and Friday 0830 – 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk)

Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application which must be submitted in writing to the following address before the date shown below: Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

NAME OF APPLICANT: **A.F. Blakemore & Son Ltd trading as Blakemore Retail**

NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PREMISES: **Spar – Brackla Way, Brackla, Bridgend, CF31 2JS**

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED VARIATION: To allow the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises between the hours of 06.00 – 23.00 hours daily including bank holidays and to remove any embedded restrictions inherited from the Licensing Act 1964 relating to the permitted hours

DATE BY WHICH REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE MADE: **16th June 2017**

This Notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority namely 19th May 2017 for 28 consecutive days.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5000.

## Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Penarth Scaffolding Company Limited trading as Specialist Modular Scaffold of 47 Arcot Street, Penarth, South Glamorgan, Wales, CF64 1EU is applying for a licence to use Yard A2, Atlantic Way, Barry Docks, South Glamorgan, CF63 3RA as an operating centre for 3 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of the land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

# Salmon fishermen and stunning views – ramblers see the Wye Valley at its best

**AT the start of Penarth and District Ramblers summer evening walks, a forecast of rain showers meant only three walkers were lured out to join Joy at the Twyn.**

Setting off on a humid evening with only a few drops of rain that soon stopped, a climb up through the peaceful Dinas Powys golf course led to the One o'Clock Gate and then, by lane, into woodland.

Passing neatly-piled logs and with the aroma of bluebells and wild garlic filling the air, a circumnavigation of the pretty Park Wood and a descent led to Cwm George, through the stunning copper beech wood for their return to Dinas Powys.

Ten walkers joined William for an epic 17.5-mile journey through a variety of stunning woodlands with their picturesque views over the gorgeous Wye Valley. Driving to Chepstow for the 40-minute scenic bus ride into Monmouth town centre and crossing the Wye Bridge into Gloucestershire, the spring-flowered banks of the Wye led them past the old disused viaduct.

They saw salmon fishermen and banks smothered in bluebells on re-crossing into Monmouthshire via the footbridge at Redbrook.

After a pleasant break near a fishing lodge in hazy sunshine, the first climb by road and track led into Cuckoo Wood with its moss covered boulders. Upon reaching Cleddon, following a lack of rainfall, hardly any water was tumbling down the steep hillside into the valley above Llandogo.

Climbing gradually into Bargain Wood, where carved lines of poetry on wooden benches mark viewpoints over the magnificent River Wye, they headed down to Botany Bay.

A descent through bluebell and garlic-lined

paths at Coed Beddick heralded a late lunch at Tintern Old Station in warm sunshine.

Taking advantage of the flat riverbank, they stopped on the journey to Tintern for refreshing ice creams in the shadow of the ruined Tintern Abbey and headed up through lush green meadows.

The short, steep scramble up the cliff into Black Cliff Wood with its ancient Iron Age Fort brought them high above the Wye gorge.

Reaching the Eagle's Nest with its breathtaking views over the Severn Estuary, the winding River Wye, the Llancaut Peninsula, the steep cliffs at Wintour's Leap and the ruined Chepstow Castle, meant a brief stop for revitalising cake from John R accompanied by the delivery of a poem by WH Davies from William.

Descending steeply through Lower Wyndcliff Wood and the rocky Giant's Cave led them towards the delightful ruins of Piercefield House and stables, with its surrounding parkland and glorious view towards the Severn Bridge.

In warm golden sunshine, the last leg adjacent to Chepstow Racecourse led along a lane, through a gate in a stone wall and back to Chepstow.

On May 26, meet at 10.15am at Rhose Railway Station for a 9.5-mile moderate walk to Llantwit Major and the return by train as part of the VOG Walking Festival; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

On May 27, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 10.5-mile moderate walk from Lydbrook in the Wye Valley; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

To follow the group, log onto [www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com](http://www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com) or Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

**JOY STRANGWARD**

# Cowbridge Tennis ladies' excellent start to season

**AFTER three rounds of matches in the South Wales Tennis Doubles Leagues, the ladies of Cowbridge Tennis Club have had a cracking start to the season.**

The ladies have been showing the way and have only one defeat from six matches for our first and second ladies teams. This is all the more impressive given the fact that more than half the first team regulars, who played such a great role in achieving promotion to Division Two last year, have not been as available this year for various reasons.

Even more impressive is that the ladies second team have won all three matches and sit atop Division 5. This is testament to our ladies captains, Kirsty Heald and Kate Button, who have juggled resources and encouraged new club and team members.

All in all, everyone has played a fantastic role and needless to say there is a great spirit among our ladies. The only defeat to date was in a recent local derby at Bridgend.

This correspondent was present at Bridgend and witnessed fantastic tennis by both teams and while the result may not have gone our way, the ladies can remain heartened by the level of tennis they played, particularly given two new pairings and a first team debut for our third pair.

Ella Williams /Natalie Morgan, Kirsty Heald/Karen James and Kate Button/Sarah Penketh acquitted themselves well against a very experienced Bridgend team with

county champions in their midst.

Our men are keenly taking tips from our ladies as they await their first wins of the season. However, there have been several close matches with half of the men's matches to date finishing 3-3, only for us to lose on countback of sets or games.

In the league's wisdom this year, a bonus point has been introduced for losing draws so opportunities remain to climb the leagues and compete for promotion.

The men are in Premier 3, Division 2 and Division 6 against clubs with usually much bigger resources and full time professional tennis players so we can still feel proud of punching above our weight.

Nevertheless, the captains will no doubt be consulting our in-house guru, Allan Duggan, for the right tactics to accelerate the rest of the season.

The club has a thriving membership and there are opportunities for all to play most nights, Saturday afternoons and ladies mornings so you can play where you feel most comfortable.

The under-12, under-10 and under-9 junior teams have debuted their first ever summer league matches (match reports to follow in next week's GEM).

We are a friendly family orientated club and are always welcoming new members. More detailed information is available on our website <http://cltc.webs.com/> or please call our coach Ian Duggan on 07919 816609.

DB

# Cowbridge firsts win

**A quite brilliant 84 by Jonathan Hubsmidt out of a team total of 118 all out proved the decisive contribution as Cowbridge beat Merthyr by 38 runs on Saturday.**

Not content with playing an innings which dominated the Cowbridge scorecard, Jonathan then bowled out the home tail taking 3-15 to secure the win.

The Cowbridge players were understandably delighted when Jonathan's search for a new challenge brought him to the club.

As an all-rounder he had been one of Premier League's brightest stars but no one could have imagined that he would illuminate the Pentrebach ground with an innings which displayed technique, belligerence and experience in equal measures.

In short on a pitch

that was barely fit for play Jonathan was pure class.

The value of the innings is obvious when one considers that of the rest of the Cowbridge line up only Matthew Harper reached double figures with 16.

So the visitors had a total of 118 to defend. Not much you might think, and at tea it seemed Cowbridge were on the brink of losing to one of the bottom sides.

Such an outcome would have been a severe setback to the first XI's lofty ambitions. Nothing short of an excellent bowling and fielding performance would suffice.

Captain Chris Willey need not have worried. The bowlers came up trumps aided by some fine catching. Although the home side proceeded at a snail's pace to 38-1 there was no question of Cowbridge making their task an easy one.

Nick Wood was accuracy personified as

he claimed two wickets, Joe Russell also picked up a brace and Heath Webb's first first team wicket was as a result of a fine catch by Ben Wright.

There was also a great effort to cling on to a catch by Richie Howson. By the time Jonathan Hubsmidt came into the attack, a home victory was looking remote, and thanks to the man of the match the end was not long delayed.

By the time Cowbridge's scorer, Sarah Russell, had logged off her laptop (no old-fashioned pencils and books!) 20 wickets had fallen and only four batsmen had reached double figures.

Consider that Jonathan scored more than the entire Merthyr score on his own, it really was an extraordinary achievement.

On Saturday the first XI play Llanelli at home.

JRB

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Information via (figures correct as of April 2017)

# Employees out in force for Give and Gain Day

**PUBLIC-sector employees from the Vale Council recently provided 120 hours of volunteering when they stopped doing a normal day's work to support local projects for Give and Gain Day.**

The Council's Neighbourhoods team were joined by volunteers for three schemes, with members of Building Services contributing by deploying materials and labour throughout the day.

The three sites for the work included: St Peter's Church in Dinas Powys, Stratford Green, Barry and the Tenovus Distribution Centre, Cardiff.

In Dinas Powys, the volunteers cleared a section of land and created a 'fire pit' for the church. Stratford Green in Barry was cleared of litter and fly-tipped rubbish.

The volunteers helped to give the garage doors across the whole street a complete make-over, with a fresh coat of paint being applied to them.

Volunteers also made an appearance at Tenovus and assisted with the processing of items into the centre, as well as preparing goods for distribution.

Miles Punter, director of environment and housing services for the Council, volunteered on the day and said: "Give and Gain Day provides us with an opportunity

to get out of the office and provide a helping hand to our local communities.

"The camaraderie on the day was excellent, with all volunteers contributing to brighten up the areas in Dinas Powys and Barry. It is a really worthwhile cause, and I wish to thank everyone who joined me on the day."

Give and Gain Day, organised by Business in the Community (BITC), is the UK's only national day that "celebrates the power and potential of employee volunteering". Volunteers give up a day's work of their normal day-to-day job to help local businesses and engage with the community.





## CHARITY GOLF DAY RAISE FUNDS FOR TENOVUS



**THE annual NFU Mutual Insurance charity golf day was held last Friday at a sunny South-erndown Golf Club where 124 golfers assembled to raise funds for the Tenovus 'Closer to Home' appeal fund.**

With quality prizes donated by many generous sponsors, the day's individual and team competitions were keenly contested.

In the men's section, Cowbridge resident Peter Croke, with a very respectable 37 points claimed first prize just ahead of Andrew Burton also with 37 points but with an inferior back nine. Rob Jackson finished in third place with 36 points.

In the ladies section, Mrs Kath Evans collected first prize with 36 points followed by Helen Evans who scored 32.

Nearest the pin on the

par 3-holes were Roger Jones, Shirley Lewis, Peter O'Toole and David Cream, who also correctly guessed that 177 balls would fail to make the journey home.

James Humphreys and Shirley Lewis won the longest drive prizes and Charles Heaven was rewarded with a prize for being nearest the pin with his second shot to the 18th green.

Gareth Perkins, accompanied by Richard Scott, Shaun Davies and Andrew Burton won the men's team event with 111 points, followed by Nat West Bank, who scored 105 points.

A team from Pyle Garden Centre finished third with 103 points.

Two teams representing JCP Solicitors had contrasting fortunes with bragging

rights being claimed by the successful ladies team - Clare Goldsworthy, Helen Evans, Lyn Walters and Shirley Lewis.

Their male colleagues from JCP Solicitors - Rory Hutchings, Chris Davies, Sean Boucher and Aidan Jones - collected the Best Endeavour prize.

Following the presentation ceremony a cheque for £5,000 was presented to Mr Brian Lakin, a trustee representing the Closer to Home appeal fund.

Brian thanked all those who had contributed to this worthy cause with a special mention to event organiser Mrs Pam Harris and also to the many very generous sponsors.

T.McC

## Penarth Belle Vue Bowling Club latest

**BELLE Vue went down by 14 shots, winning two rinks and losing two in a very close game with Barry Romilly in the Carruthers Shield.**

Rink one won started slowly, but came through in the end. Lead was Richard Fitzjohn, No 2 was Frank Keen, No 3 was Dave Miller, skip was captain Malcolm Thomas who played a captain's part.

Rink two lost 36-15, but the score wasn't too bad! Two new members played well. Lead Dave Bradley No 2 Mike Owens, No 3 Richard Brant and skip was Trevor Ford.

Rink three had a good win 15-11; a real dog fight in the end. Lead was Gerry Field, No 2 was Paul Booth, No 3 was Barrie Bagwell and the skip was Dave Purser, who was on top form to see his rink home.

Rink four lost 28-20. They started very well, led for quite a long time, but Romilly pulled it back to give them the victory and sealed the result.

A big thank you to Barry Romilly for a lovely spread after the match. Both captains said the match was played in a friendly spirit with plenty of banter on all the rinks.

FRANK KEEN

## MILLWOOD SLIP TO MUNRO CUP DEFEAT

**DESPITE the incessant rain that fell throughout the day on Wednesday, Mother Nature finally relented in sufficient time for Millwood's Munro Cup game to take place on an overcast chilly evening at Sully Bowls Club.**

Peter Taylor found his rink from the start in a battle with the Sully rink skipped by veteran Denis Edwards, always a hard man to defeat; the score saw-sawed between them until the 15th end when Millwood scored a five to open a four shot lead.

Sully fought back and on the final end Millwood squeezed out a single shot to win 16-15.

Alan Bumford led his rink against the Sully rink skipped by M Hardy and despite his and his rink's best efforts, struggled all match finally going down 23-11.

Brian Croxford found his rink up against the Sully rink skipped by Carl Best. Millwood got off to a flier and after 10 ends led comfortably, 16-2.

Despite a revival by Sully, who scored a 6 on the 11th end, Millwood were not going to be denied, winning 19-11.

Meanwhile on rink five the closest match of the evening was taking place between rinks skipped by Keith Davies and Dave Curtis.

The first seven ends went shot for shot with Millwood clinging to a narrow lead. A four for Millwood opened clear water but Sully finally clinched the win, 17-12.

Honours even at two rinks apiece, overall Sully won 66-58.

On Saturday the club side visited Kenfig Hill for the third and final preliminary round of the Carruthers Cup.

Millwood set off with the best of intentions but the afternoon was to prove a big

disappointment.

Although the rink skipped by Brian Croxford overcame a deficit of six shots to tie 19-19 and Keith Davies and his rink held their own for 14 ends, a dropped five on the 15th end was the beginning of the end, finally losing 32-16; with similar scores on the other two rinks, Millwood succumbed to a heavy defeat.

This season, the Carruthers Cup has not been our finest so we look forward to next year and concentrate our energy and efforts into the league programme which starts in a fortnight.

On Friday Cardiff Masonic came to Millwood for a three rink extravaganza played in its usual friendly but competitive spirit.

A very pleasant afternoon was had by one and all with the overall result being a tie. Players and guests retired to the clubhouse for refreshments to round off a very pleasant afternoon and we look forward to our opponents' next visit.

Members are reminded that Saturday, May 27 is captain's day, and to book their places and attend the barbeque after-play.

BH

## Kayaking Ben is a Little Shredder!



**BEN Higson, who is in year 7 at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, has been selected to be part of the Jackson Kayaks Little Shredders team.**

Jackson Kayaks are the biggest manufacturer of freestyle kayaks in the world and the Little Shredders are picked as being up-and-coming young people (up to age 15) who are also ambassadors to kayaking.

There are seven members in the team across the world and Ben was selected for one of the two places that came up this year (and will be the only one in the UK).

He is very excited about being selected and

had to apply with a blog, picture and video clips. He will need to write four blogs for the website each year. Well done Ben!

Ben has competed in two freestyle events so far this year, the Welsh Open (where he came second in the 14-and-under) and Nene (where he won the same age group).

His scores were actually higher than several of the older competitors, with the third highest points at the Welsh Open (not including Elite paddlers) and fifth at Nene.

He also did C1 in Nene where he was the only one competing in this class.

The next event will be Nottingham on the weekend of June 3/4, good luck Ben!

## Cowbridge Bowls Club round-up

**RAIN affected matches last week.**

A ladies Evening League game and a men's Munro Cup game were cancelled, both to be re-arranged for later in the season.

The ladies did play a Thursday League match away to Llantwit and earned two points with a win on one rink.

**Rink scores:** Diane Purnell, Tina Payne, Sylvia Hole and Joan Bradley 17-8; Janet Morton, Caryl Davies, May Jones and Sue Flower 9-28; Helena Snelling, Corrie Bufon, Lynda Wilson and Jan Lewis 10-19. Match score Cowbridge 36, Llantwit Major 55.

The club has joined a new Triples League this season and played their first game away to Pontyclun last Thursday evening losing on all four rinks.

**Rink scores:** Gerwyn Watkins, Guy Morton and Roger Barwick 16-18; John Hunt, Bryan Hole and Bob Penn 12-18; Tom Purnell, John

Collin and Clive Pritchard 11-25; Gerry Lloyd, Steve Dodsworth and Colin Wilson 6-26. Match score Cowbridge 45, Pontyclun 87.

Playing last Saturday the men had the daunting task of an away match to the Tonyrefail club Ely Valley in the Carruthers Shield.

Ely Valley has one of the best teams in Wales and are former winners of the Carruthers Shield. With key Cowbridge players on holiday and another recovering from a fall in the garden it was made even harder.

Although well beaten, Gerry Lloyd and his team did compete and those that did make the trip will have gained from valuable experience.

Finally, this coming Saturday is club day and the club will be having an informal internal fun competition.

Players are asked to be at the club by 9.40am, any later and you will have missed 'the Spider'.

MB

## Cowbridge RFC veterans take a mystery tour!

**COWBRIDGE RFC'S annual vets tour took place on May 6 and 7 with a good mix of players, committee and supporters departing the club on their usual mystery trip.**

The destination this year was Kidderminster and we were hosted by Chaddesley Corbett RFC.

A small and relatively new rugby club, they certainly made us feel most welcome, laid on a grand barbecue and entertained us in true rugby club fashion. And so as a thank you, we let them win the rugby!

The evening passed

GT

## BARRY RFC LOTTERY DRAW

**THIS week's Barry RFC lottery numbers were 02, 09, 11 and 24 which again failed to find a winner.**

This week's jackpot will be £4,820.

AJ

## Bridge results

**THE results for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for May 22 are as follows:**

First, Phil and Lou Edwards, 64.77 per cent; second, John Henson and Geoff Tinkler, 61.36 per cent; third, John Beard and Bill Turner, 60.91 per cent.

LE

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email [editorial@glamorgangem.co.uk](mailto:editorial@glamorgangem.co.uk) or call 01446 774484



# Photographer looks back at the pivotal moments of Barry Town United's season

Barry Town United's success in gaining promotion to the Welsh Premier League was an incredible achievement, a history-making season that left fans with countless great memories. The GEM asked photographer John Smith of SAME OLD SMITH PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO to select the images that defined a season of hard work and celebrations that has put the club back where it belongs.

All pictures by Same Old Smith Photography  
(sameoldsmith.com,  
Twitter @sameoldsmiths).





# Captain's day at golf club



Winners Dai Pugh (left) and Viv Williams (right) with club captain Kota Dayananda in the centre.



Runners-up Jill Arnold (left) and Barbara Beedham (right) with club captain Kota Dayananda.



Third place Paul Coombs (left) and Goff Williams (right) with club captain Kota Dayananda.

A huge entry of over 100 players gave tremendous support for new club captain Kota Dayananda at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club on a day aimed to raise funds for his nominated charity The Stroke Association, Cardiff.

A shotgun start worked perfectly to enable the course to be filled quickly, and importantly for all the competitors to finish at the same time to enjoy an excellent buffet generously provided by the club captain.

The usual competition entry fees were waived and members invited to make a similar donation to the captain's nominated charity.

The captain was delighted to announce that almost £400 was raised towards what is already looking like a very successful fundraising year.

The main competition was a four ball better ball stableford and traditionally the leading scores are very close and this year was no exception.

The first five places were separated by just a single point and the count back procedure was needed to separate the winners and places.

The winners were Viv Williams and Dai Pugh who picked up the first prize with 45 points. Just squeezed out and runners-up were Jill Arnold and Barbara Beedham who also scored 45 points but just lost out because of the count back.

Three teams scored 44 points and again after countback Paul Coombs and Goff Williams picked up the prize for third place.

Also on 44 points were Mark Gallivan and Del Lewis together with Andy Evans and Nigel Parry who picked up a share of the sweep prize



Phil Yee receives his prizes for the remarkable feat of winning both nearest-the-pin competitions.

as a consolation.

In addition to the main competition there were the usual prizes for any twos and also for nearest the pin on the second and ninth par three holes.

Quite remarkably, Phil Yee picked up both prizes for nearest the pin, with each being within a club length of what might have been an expensive hole in one!

In presenting the prizes, Kota Dayananda thanked the members for their excellent support on the day - with particular thanks to the green staff for the presentation of the course which is now in peak condition. A few showers didn't dampen the spirits!

Special mention was given to club secretary Nicola Sims and Jason Harris, the club professional, for organising the day, together with bar and catering staff for their contribution in making it such a successful and enjoyable event.

The captain was particularly impressed with the response to the request to wear as much purple as possible to reflect the charity, and as such the real winners will be The Stroke Association Cardiff.

BJ

# Suzanne's first gold a highlight as Beavers impress at swim gala

RECENTLY Barry Beavers Swimming Club attended their second away swimming gala which was hosted by Blaenau Gwent Otters on May 20 at Ebbw Vale Leisure Centre.

The team came home with an total of 13 medals (four golds, four silvers and five bronzes). Also the team were thrilled for Suzanne Haslam, winning her first ever gold with the club she has swum for a number of years.

The team would like to congratulate her for her long overdue

achievement, well done Suzanne from all in the team and the whole club: you should be proud of yourself!

The gold medal winners were as follows: Keira Richards Girls 25m, Suzanne Haslam Ladies 25m, Louis Davies Boys 50m, Ffion Jones Girls 100m.

Silver medal winners were as follows: Calum Savory Boys 25m, Jen Thomson Ladies 50m, Nadine Dyne Ladies 25m, junior relay (Jack, Ffion, Calum and Abby).

Bronze medal winners were as follows: Faye Sage Girls 25m, Abby Finch Girls 50m, Kyle Sirak Mens 50m, Jack Kemp Boys 100m, Sarah

Davies Ladies 100m.

On top of that, the league swim team (Tyler, Nicholas, Gareth and Mark) came first in this gala.

Pat and all the supporting team like to congratulate the whole team for doing so well on the day and improving there times, you are all a credit to the club.

For all those who use the Co-op, the club is one of the chosen organisations and charities.

The club would appreciate everyone to vote for the club so the club can receive money from their donations.

NC

# Vale of Glamorgan Pool League news

THE Vale of Glamorgan Pool League has just secured its first sponsor, Eze Drive, a Barry and Vale driving school owned and operated by Wayne Kenneally, which has generously sponsored two cups for the scotch doubles competition.

In the cup, Billy United had an emphatic 7-2 win over the Borough Arms. Dave Miller started the night off with a win over Les Ashton.

The Borough levelled the match with Gavin Stevens beating Gary Roberts. A win by Tom Ivins made it 2-1, then Rob Larkin made it 2-2.

From then on it was all about the Billy who won five straight frames leaving the Borough bewildered.

There were fine performances from unbeaten Tom Ivins, Ceri Morris and Ian Roberts. The Billy top group B and are on course to do the double.

In the league, the Castle beat Finnegan's 10-0, the scoreline flattering to deceive, as Finnegan's should have won at least four points in this game. Only poor finishing on the black let

them down.

The Finnegan's team are in their first year of competition pool and are improving every week.

The Castle, on the other hand, have years of experience and it showed with their composure and finishing, with captain Sean Kelly leading by example.

Alongside his colleagues Ralph and Brian, they have, between them, over 50 years of competitive pool experience.

The singles quarter-finals have been completed and going through to the semi-finals are Mark Ingram who beat Dan Roderick, with Ceri Morris, county captain James Hill and Barry's number one pool player, and favourite to win the singles, Chris Bardsley.

The league are looking for new players of all capabilities and more teams for their expanding league. Teams only need four players to compete, but with the new format, there is room for big squads also.

Please text Joe on 07870498738 or email him on Valeofglamorganpoolleague@gmail.com.

JB

# Busy weekend for Barry tennis club

IT was another busy weekend for Barry CTC, with competitive action from the under-9s and ladies teams, as well as a full coaching programme.

The under-9s played their first matches of the season, and for some players it was their first ever taste of competitive tennis.

Everyone did well, despite their inexperience, and enjoyed hosting Llanelli at Romilly Park on Saturday (followed by a picnic in the sunshine, before the visitors enjoyed a trip to Barry Island, after securing a 6-4 win).

On Sunday, it was the under-9s turn to travel to visit their opponents, this time at the club's sister club Penarth Lawn Tennis Club.

The sun shone on some very competitive

matches, with four of the 10 matches going to a deciding set, but PLTC ultimately won by nine rubbers to one.

Meanwhile, the ladies team travelled to Monmouth, and amidst some heavy downpours, a few rumbles of thunder, and some outbreaks of dazzling sunshine, the BarryCTC ladies secured a 3-1 victory, maintaining their 100 per cent fixture win rate this season.

Unfortunately, the 12u

opponents withdrew due to illness at the last minute, meaning that BarryCTC win the fixture by default.

This weekend sees the ladies in action again against Rhondda, as well as the culmination of the Tennis for Kids programme, and the Quorn family Cup, where parents and children team up as doubles partners to compete for the chance to play at one of the grass tournaments later this summer. PM

# BOWLS OPEN DAY A SUCCESS

LLANTWIT MAJOR BOWLS CLUB had a very successful open day on Sunday.

The number of ladies and gents who turned up to try out the game of bowls exceeded expectations, and the club are hopeful that many will join the club. The lady president Etta Gray and the men's captain John Nixon were there to welcome the participants.

The club wish to thank all the club members who turned up to give their support and who assisted with the coaching and giving out the refreshments.

NY

# Murch slip to Bridgend loss

ON Saturday, May 20, Murch Bowling Club visited Bridgend Municipal Bowling club in the Carruthers Cup.

Bridgend proved to be much the stronger side and won on all four rinks.

There were victories for the rinks skipped by D Adams, D Stephens, D Hodgson and K Taylor.

The match was played in a competitive but friendly manner and a pleasant afternoon was

had by everyone on the green.

After the match Bridgend offered their hospitality in their club house and a splendid cooked meal was provided which all enjoyed.

Anyone interested in trying their hand at bowling can contact the Murch Bowling club on 02920 513396 and will be assured of a warm welcome.

TP

# Lady skittlers wanted!

THE Oddbods, who play in Bar Cocoa in Barry, are looking for ladies over 18 to join their skittles team.

They play most weeks on a Wednesday and the season starts again in September.

If you are interested, please contact Tasha on 01446 622022 or 07931 588827.

TP

# New manager Ben tries his Luck at Dinas Powys FC

FOLLOWING the resignation of Paul Giles, who decided to step down from his management role, at the end of last season for family reasons, Dinas Powys FC are delighted to announce the appointment of Ben Luck as the new first team manager.

Ben has taken the step into management following a serious injury last season, which saw his season cut short while playing for Dinas Powys.

Ben's playing career has also seen him play for Cirencester,

Aberaman, Cwmbran Celtic, Llanwern and AFC Porth.

Ben will be assisted in the role by Dave Penikett and Richie Garland, who will add experience to the management team.

The club would like to take the opportunity to thank Paul and his management team for their commitment and efforts last season, and at the same time would like to wish Ben and his management team, all the best for the coming season.

RG





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Tom David rode a number of winners for Zara Phillips and he is seen here after winning on one of her horses at the Golden Valley Point-To-Point in 2009. Princess Anne and GEM reporter Brian Lee are also in picture.

## Evan has plans on the flat for John Constable!

**L**LANCARFAN'S Evan Williams was so impressed with the way his John Constable won the Pertemps Swindon Handicap Hurdle that he told the press that the Ffos Las supreme Dai Walters owned horse could get a spell on the flat.

Evan said: "John Constable did it well, very impressive. I thought he would win; I would have been disappointed if he hadn't run well. I thought the Aintree race form looked very good, with Seamus Mullins' horse Chesterfield winning the Scottish Champion Hurdle so well, and I thought we had the beating of all those horses."

"The wind operation before Aintree made a big difference but more importantly, with the weather we had during the winter months and how warm it has been in the last week, he really has improved since Aintree."

"I wanted to go to Chester because the prize money is so good and the horse has come to hand so well. But this is quite nice. I'd imagine we'll look at a flat campaign. You've got to be careful - this could have been his Gold Cup, because he has bloomed in the last two weeks. His mind is right; everything is right."

"I think we'll try him on the flat at some stage."

### SPENCER MOON'S FONTWELL WIN

Kevin Slater's nine-year-old bay gelding Spencer Moon, confidently ridden by Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft, landed the Westbourne Racing Club Maiden Hurdle Chase over two miles and five furlongs at Fontwell Park last week.

Spencer Moon, who is trained by Keiron Price and who is qualified with the Ystrad Taf Fechan Hunt, won by 11 lengths from Creative Inertia and after winning at the Trecoed Point-To-Point the previous Sunday, went off the 5-4 favourite.

### TOM BOWS OUT WITH A DOUBLE

Before the start of the Gelligaer Farmers Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases on Saturday, Llanharan's Tom David told me that he had two rides during the afternoon and that he would then be hanging up his riding boots as he was taking up the position of assistant trainer to Bourton on the Water's Ben Pauling.

Well Tom certainly went off on a high as he won on both and his memorable double was initiated when in the Confined race he somehow managed to pip the pacemaker, determined and blinkered Doctor Braveheart (Charly Prichard) by a neck.

Minella Arts is owned by hunting stalwart Mrs Carmen Goldsworthy and trained in the Bridgend area by Charlie Packwood.

An eight-year-old brown gelding by Presenting, Minella Arts who was

winning for the third time on the bounce, lost his maiden tag over the Lower Machen course last year.

In the 13 runner Restricted the Jonathan Phillips trained Oscar Fian, who provided Tom with his second winner, got the better of Way Wild West (Bradley Gibbs) who had made a lot of the running after the favourite Massini's Dream had fallen on the first circuit.

A 7-1 chance, Oscar Fian had two-and-a-half lengths to spare over Way Wild West whose rider Bradley Gibbs won the Young Horse Maiden on his father David's six-year-old bay gelding Captain Kennit who went clear four fences from the finish to beat Tucks Bergin (Lorcan Williams) by five lengths with the odds-on Blue Tinker (Byron Moorcroft) a distant third.

Captain Kennit, who had finished in the place reserved for the runner-up in his five previous starts, was wearing cheek pieces for the first time and Gibbs who has had a cracking season said they certainly did the trick.

Six went to post for the Mixed Open Race including the Will Biddick ridden Before The War and Anna Lewis riding her nine-year-old chestnut gelding Tiger Rag gave the eventual winner 12-year-old Universal Soldier, partnered by James Bowen, plenty to think about and in a thrilling finish was beaten one-and-a-half lengths.

James who rode his first winner on his 16th birthday on his first ride in a point-to-point on Indian Leader at the Curre & Llangibby in March has now brought his total number of wins to 22.

Universal Soldier, who carried a 12lb penalty, is trained by James' brother Mickey who has saddled the same number of wins as his brother has ridden.

John Rees's best turned out Ruperra Tom, named after the Ruperra Wood field adjacent to the racecourse where he has spent most of his life, made it three wins in a row when getting home by half-a-length from Captain Camelot (Evan David) in the opening Hunt Members Race.

Ruperra Tom, who Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft his 20th winner of the season, and who had made most of the running, could now be Stratford bound.

Jonathan Tudor's seven-year-old grey gelding Classic Hit, given a cracking ride by the very talented Richard Patrick, was a two lengths winner of the Aged Maiden from the pacemaker Karigale (Ali Goshen).

The favourite Nuevo Molino (Bradley Gibbs) was a further four lengths away in third place.

Patrick has brought his total of wins to 13 between-the-flags, 10 under rules and one on the flat and one thing certain is that we will be hearing a lot more about him.

BRIAN LEE

# Black belt success for tae kwon do students



**THE** Vale-based JSTKD Martial Arts and Fitness welcomed seven more new black belts following examinations held at the Tae Kwon Do Association of GB headquarters in Bristol.

Students Harri Birmingham, Chris

Edwards, Ethan Cox, Lloyd Matthews, Darcy Griffin, Rhys Davies and Finlay Valvo kept their focus and determination throughout the three-hour examination.

They were put through an assessment as the six senior examiners graded not only their ability to perform the 30

movements of the black belt pattern, but also step sparring, free sparring, floor work and a variety of techniques.

As well as the practical elements of the exam, they had to undertake a theory test to demonstrate their technical knowledge and command of Korean terminology.

In addition, the club celebrated the success of four of its existing black belts, who also saw their hard work pay dividends.

Dr Hywel Roberts became a 2nd degree (dan) black belt and juniors Jake Hayvice, Menna Burningham and Matthew Hardcastle attained their star gradings.

Jake achieved his first star whilst Menna and Matthew achieved their second stars. Black belts who are under 16 years of age have to wait twice as long as adults between their dan gradings so

the star gradings are a way for juniors to continue to maintain high standards and perfect new skills during this waiting period.

There are three star gradings to complete, each more difficult than the last.

Please visit [www.jstkd.co.uk](http://www.jstkd.co.uk) for full details of classes throughout the Vale for ages three years up to adults; a free taster lesson is offered and beginners of all ages are very welcome.

JS

## Wins all round for Vale Cricket Club

**ANOTHER** good weekend saw victories for Vale CC's first and second teams as they took on Machen. As a result, the firsts lie third in SEWCL Third Division while the seconds stand at the top of their league.

Vale CC first XI travelled to Machen and on a damp wicket Vale skipper JP Davies elected to field.

Machen attacked from the very first ball but they were soon to realise that attack was not the best form of defence.

Openers Hibbs (35) and Reeby (15) scored quickly but kept Vale in the game with risky attacking play. Left arm seamer Scott McCutcheon (3-43) struck first and from then no batsman settled.

Jones (13) and Fussell (17) were found wanting as McCutcheon and Alex Davidson (4-21) bowled tight and accurate lines causing many problems for their opposition.

Eventually, Machen fell for a total of 143 all out using only 28 of their allotted 45 overs. Special mentions must go to Davidson and McCutcheon for their wickets but also to the young and promising talent of 15-year-old Alex Upham (2-19) who once again bowled excellently.

After tea Vale set about chasing Machen's total. Openers Davidson (29) and Withers (15) put on 27 for the first wicket before Withers was out caught in the covers for the second time in two weeks.

Captain JP Davies (40) and in-form all-rounder Davidson put on a very useful 56-run partnership before Davidson was out lbw at the hands of Harris.

Off spinner Harris continued to tie down an end making life difficult for Vale batsmen who looked to score

whenever the opportunity arose and with an increasingly calm sense of authority as they closed in on their target.

As the visitors looked sure to win, Davies was caught superbly at square leg. James Snelson (30no) marked a return to his 'big-hitting-ways' with including a well struck six that cleared the ground's practice area as well as the boundary.

Snelson and Matthew Thomas (5no) saw Vale reach the required total with plenty of overs to spare as they won by 6 wickets securing maximum points for the day.

The second XI hosted Machen at Corntown, and skipper Carl Brooks elected to bowl first on a wicket with a green tinge.

Good bowling from Greg Andrews, Idris Merry (2-35) and Gareth Kelland (1-25) restricted Machen to a very slow first half of the innings.

Only Rob Ashcroft (77) troubled the home team, and good bowling from Gethin Merry (2-1), Chris Haskins and Tom Lazarus (who took his debut wicket) meant that Machen ended up with an unimposing 158-7.

Batting second, the early loss of Gareth Andrews and Paul Sheppard proved inconsequential as fluent Steve Hiles (54 not out), in partnerships of 67 with the consistently classy Mark Francis (37) and then an unbeaten 61 with Kelland (28 not out) saw the table-toppers home by seven wickets with four and a half overs remaining.

This week the firsts will entertain current leaders Sully Centurions at Corntown while the seconds travel to Burnham Road.

We would like to welcome all cricket and sports fans as well as those who enjoy relaxing in the sun to our home ground just off the A48 for what promises to be an interesting encounter from 1pm on Saturday, May 27.

HW/CB

## Barrivale Bridge Club

**BARRIVALE Bridge Club results for May 16:**

The Championship pairs, session two were as follows - 1. Mark Roderick & Mike Best 69.57%, 2. Peter Millar & Jane Brook 61.59%, 3. Lyn Matthews & Alan Jones 60.33 %. The winners of the handicap were Hilary Laurence & Vivian Liles.

As always, new members are welcome at Barrivale Bridge Club and a partner may be arranged, if required.

If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Alternatively, players inexperienced or new, may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address where lessons and play take place in a relaxed atmosphere.

LH

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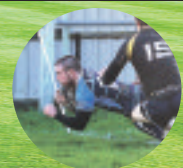




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## Bridgend Athletic youth win national league play-off final

A five try, five-star performance saw the winners of the Ospreys Youth League, Bridgend Athletic, crowned top youth side in Wales, overcoming Cardiff Blues League and Welsh Cup winners Rummy by 37 points to 30.

The game was played in perfect conditions on the Centre for Excellence 4G pitch at Ystrad Mynach, with both sides providing a large crowd with a feast of rugby with nine tries and 67 points on a sunny Friday evening.

Rummy with a large physical advantage took early control of the game with their large pack feeding off outside half Jake Hillman and trying to punch holes in the Athletic defence. They took an early lead with a Jake Williams penalty.

Resolute Athletic defence with the back row of Ben Davies, Luke Williams and Javan Bell and hooker Cameron Thomas, playing like a third flanker, to the fore kept the Athletic try line intact.

The game was turned on its head in the 10th minute. Athletic centre Jon Taylor intercepted a passing move on his own 10-metre line and outplayed the Rummy defence to cross under the posts. Luke Bevan converted.

From the restart, Athletic lock Tom Davies ran out of defence from his own 22 linking with fellow lock captain Tom Seldon before releasing wing Tom James. James made good ground before passing inside to lock Tom Davies.

Davies showed potential outside half skills chipping through the defence for centre Stuart Floyd-Ellis to gather and cross in the corner.

Bevan's touchline conversion and 40-metre penalty gave the Athletic a huge boost with a 17-3 lead, with the 17 points coming in under five minutes.

Rummy hit back with



Jon Taylor crosses for the first try.

a series of forward drives resulting in flanker Lewis Hill going over for a try. A Jake Hill penalty brought the Cardiff side back to 17-11.

The Athletic then showed they could also play a forward game and drives by prop Morgan Clemett and hooker Cameron Thomas caused Rummy to infringe. Bevan put the penalty close to the Rummy try line.

A driving maul from the lineout saw flanker Ben Davies pushed over in the corner. Bevan's touchline conversion put the Athletic 24-11 ahead.

A Ben Davies drive set up the ball for scrum half Caine Woolerton to set the backs in motion with wing Joe Patterson providing the scoring pass to Bevan to give the Athletic a deserved 29-11 half-time lead.

Rummy started the second half strongly and a good passing move saw wing Joe Morgan cross in the corner.

Luke Bevan then extended the Athletic lead to 32-16 with a penalty awarded for Rummy killing the ball on the floor. Athletic hooker Cameron Thomas was shown a yellow card for a high tackle.

Rummy kicked the penalty to the corner and flanker Lewis Hill, using the team's man advantage, crossed for his second try from a lineout driving maul.

Jake Hill's conversion reduced his side's deficit to 32-23. A few minutes before Thomas could come back on, the Athletic were reduced to

13 players with Luke Bevan sin-binned for a high tackle.

Rummy tried to press home the advantage. Thomas came back on and the Athletic introduced fresh legs with backs Dan James and Eugene Richards and forwards Joe Grabham, Will Barraclough and Owain Leyshon coming on.

Under pressure inside their own 22, Athletic full back Sam Richards made a brilliant break out of defence. The move was halted inside the Rummy 22, but quick recycling saw wing Tom James settle the Athletic nerves with their fifth try and seal the game with a 37-23 lead.

Bevan came back on to help see out the game. The referee called final play and Rummy outside half put in a cross kick which centre Jay Jones gathered to cross under the posts. Hill converted to have the final say, however, it was the Athletic celebrating a fine victory following the conversion.

Head coach Lee Grabham and assistants John Doherty and Kevin Gamble along with manager Keith Hobby deserve enormous credit for introducing a winning style of play to suit the Athletic's lack of physical presence.

The team's offloading and handling skills are a joy to watch, and their defence is very solid with players punching well above their weight.

The Athletic second string youth side also reached the final of the Welsh Cup Plate. This was the fourth Athletic youth appearance in the National League Pay-Off final in the last 15 years, winning two, losing one with one final unfortunately not played.

In that period, the Athletic Youth have also won two out of three Welsh youth cup finals.

Nine of the team have played first team senior rugby this season and if they stay together can help restore the Athletic back to the Championship in a season or two.

AB



The team lifts the trophy. ALL PICTURES BY JOHN CANNON.

## TONDU ARE DENIED DOUBLE AFTER CUP FINAL DEFEAT



Jake Lewis with the ball. ALL PICTURES BY GARETH ANTHONY.



Hywel Davies.

**THE weather was perfect for this Silver Ball final between Tondy and Rhydyfelin, and the pitch at the Brewery Field, Bridgend was in prime condition for a top class encounter.**

It was Tondy who made the brighter start, showing an in-form Rhydyfelin side that they were not just there to make up the numbers when scrum half Gareth Lindenbun jinked over for the game's opening try after just four minutes. Josh Tatchell

added the conversion to give the Waterwheelers an early 7-0 lead.

That resulted in Rhydyfelin turning up the volume and after a period of strong pressure it was full back Dai Gratton who finally sailed over for a well-worked try.

The same player missed the resulting conversion to leave Tondy with a narrow advantage.

Now it was Tondy's turn to up the ante and they extended their lead with a Tatchell penalty on the half-hour mark. Rhydyfelin finished the half in the

ascendancy though, with hooker Scott Pritchard crossing to give Rhydyfelin a narrow 12-10 half-time lead.

The second period saw both sides with periods of strong pressure but it was Rhydyfelin who were awarded a dubious 57th minute try when referee Ben Whitehouse failed to spot a knock on in the build-up to Josh Hawkins' try.

Gratton failed with his conversion attempt to leave Tondy with everything to play for going into the final quarter.

During that last 20 minutes both sides had

chances but it was Tondy who certainly finished the stronger, as they've been doing all season, but unfortunately they just couldn't find that final pass and a resolute Rhydyfelin defence held firm to the final whistle.

Despite coming off second best, Tondy can be proud of their

achievements this season - runaway champions of Division 2 West Central having played some wonderful rugby, and they can now look forward to next season in Division One where they will have to be taken seriously.

MIKE SULLY

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